I am pleased to present this report to the Committees on the status of DirigoChoice as required by Chapter 469 of the Public Laws of 2003, Section 6913, 8. A. The data presented in this report represents cumulative activity beginning January 2005 through the fourth quarter 2006 and represents information provided to and discussed with the Dirigo Health Agency Board of Directors.

(1) The total enrollment in Dirigo Health Insurance, including the number of enrollees previously underinsured or uninsured, the number of enrollees previously insured, the number of individual enrollees, and the number of enrollees enrolled through small employers.

Through December 2006, the total number of participants served by the program was 22,653, of which 5,129 are MaineCare expansion parents. The number of DirigoChoice members served by the plan through December 2006 was 13,290. Through December, 2006, 27% of the membership is from small business; 27% sole proprietors and 46% individuals. The number of previously uninsured DirigoChoice members (defined as uninsured at some time in the 12 month period prior to enrolling in DirigoChoice) through December 2006 continues to be approximately 36% of membership.

(2) The total number of enrollees covered in health plans through large employers and self-insured employers.

Per the Bureau of Insurance, as of December 31, 2005, there were approximately 533,506 enrollees in Maine covered in health plans through large employers and self-insured employers.

(3) The number of employers, both small employers and large employers, who have ceased offering health insurance or contributing to the cost of health insurance for employees or who have begun offering coverage on a self-insured basis.

This data is not currently collected or reported. The Agency will coordinate with the Bureau of Insurance as to the feasibility and best way of collecting this data.
(4) The number of employers, both small employers and large employers, who have begun to offer health insurance or contribute to the cost of health insurance premiums for their employees.

   This data is not currently collected or reported in the aggregate. The Agency will coordinate with the Bureau of Insurance as to the feasibility and best way of collecting this data.

   However, the Dirigo Health Agency does track this information for its DirigoChoice small employers (2-50 employees). To date, approximately 43% of our small employers have begun to offer health insurance.

(5) The number of new participating employers in Dirigo Health Insurance.

   The number of new participating employers (2-50 employees) in Dirigo Health in the fourth quarter was 49.

(6) The number of employers ceasing to offer coverage through Dirigo Health Insurance.

   There were 25 employers (2-50 employees) that terminated in the fourth quarter for various reasons including non-payment.

(7) The duration of employers participating in Dirigo Health Insurance.

   The Dirigo Health Agency Participation Agreement has a coverage period of one year.

(8) A comparison of actual enrollees in Dirigo Health Insurance to the projected enrollees.

   Through the end of December 2006, membership was at 109% of projections. New enrollment exploded the month of December.

   Upon your review, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or comments.