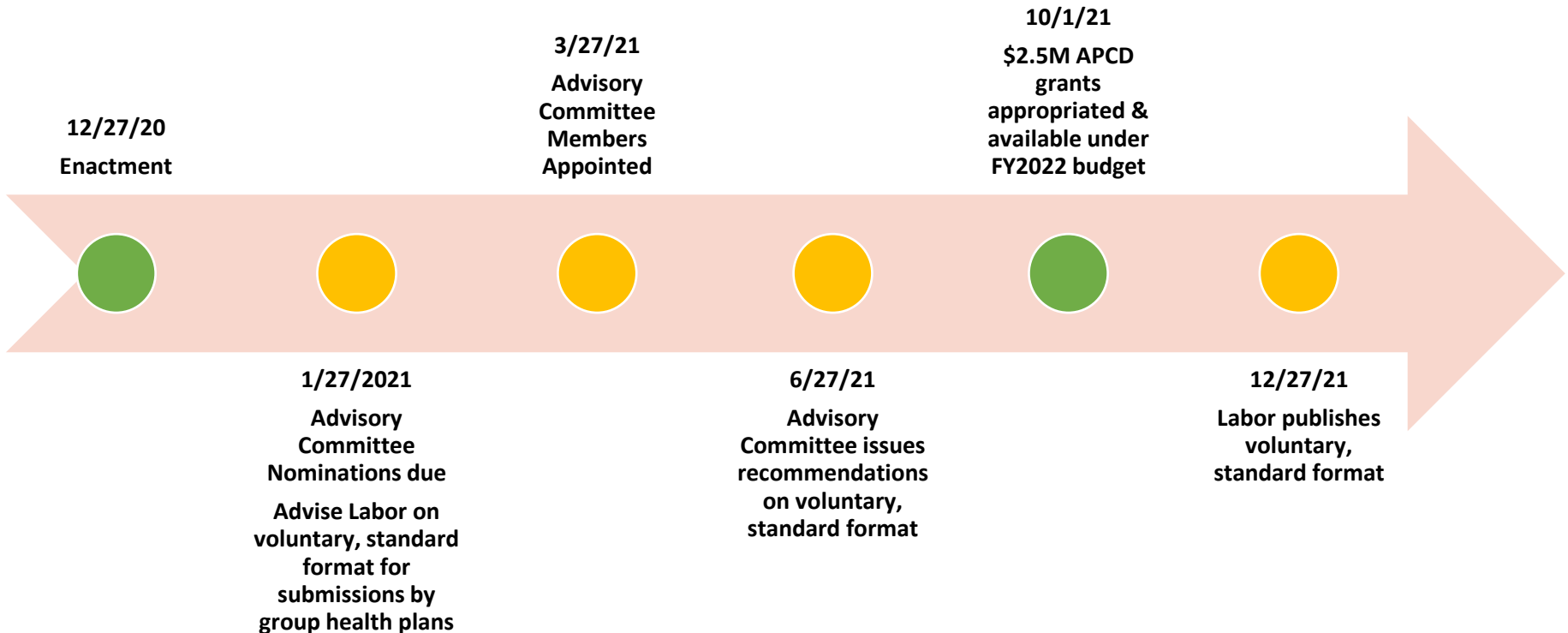


Implications of APCD Provisions Omnibus Reconciliation Bill



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Timeline for Key Provisions of Law



The Good News for States

- ▶ Federal Funding for APCD start-up or expansion
 - \$2.5M over three years is a substantial help
- ▶ Path for a National Standard APCD Format
 - Standardizes **voluntary** APCD submissions from ERISA plans
 - This new standardized format *may* also:
 - Pave the way for mandating ERISA plan APCD submissions in the future (i.e., “fix” the *Gobeille* problem)
 - Become the *de facto* format for all APCD submission in the state, including commercial and Medicaid plan submissions
 - Reduce cost & complexity for states and health plans alike
 - Ease multistate collaboration and benchmarking
- ▶ Demonstrates expanding federal support for APCDs & recognizes their value

Advisory Committee



- ▶ Advisory Committee will advise (by way of a report) on voluntary, standardized format for APCD submissions by group health plan. Committee has no role relative to the grants for APCDs.

- ▶ Committee will have 15 members
 - Asst. Secretary of Employee Benefits and Security Administration of Dept. of Labor, or designee
 - Asst. Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the DHHS, or designee
 - 7 Members appointed by Sec. of Labor in coordination with Sec. of Health and Human Services
 - Chair of Committee
 - CMS
 - AHRQ
 - Office for Civil Rights, with expertise in data privacy and security
 - National Center for Health Statistics
 - Office of Nat'l Coordinator for HIT
 - Representative of a state APCD
 - 6 Members appointed by Comptroller General (GAO)
 - Employer that sponsors a group health plan
 - Employee organization that sponsors a group health plan
 - Academic researcher, with expertise in health economics or health services
 - Consumer advocate
 - 2 additional members

- ▶ Each member will serve a staggered 3-year term. Vacancies must be filled within 3 months.

Remaining Unanswered Questions

- ▶ **APCD Grant Program**
 - When will the grant applications be available and what will the application require?
 - What does prioritization mean if there's enough money for all states?
 - Will data access requirements also pertain to voluntary APCD's?
 - How will "proprietary financial information" be interpreted?
 - Who will enforce the grant program requirements?
 - How will it interact with existing Medicaid match funding?
 - What about APM files? Can they be funded by grant dollars?
- ▶ **Standardized Format for Voluntary ERISA Submissions**
 - How will DOL go from the Committee's report recommendations to the final, standardized reporting format? Is rule making required?
 - What happens to the Committee after they issue the report?

Q & A



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