



Washington state's individual health insurance market

Alliance for Health Policy – Washington, D.C.
Presented by Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler
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OFFICE of the
**INSURANCE
COMMISSIONER**
WASHINGTON STATE

Overview of WA's individual market

- About 270,000 people
- 11 insurers and 74 health plans
 - 7 inside Exchange/7 outside (*some sell in both*)
- Coverage in every county – but out of 39 counties, 14 have only 1 Exchange insurer
- Requested 19% average rate increase for 2019



What we did to strengthen the individual market

- Created our own state-based Exchange
- Expanded Medicaid
- Did not allow canceled plans to continue
- Competitive market w/ homegrown insurers
- First state to develop rules on network access

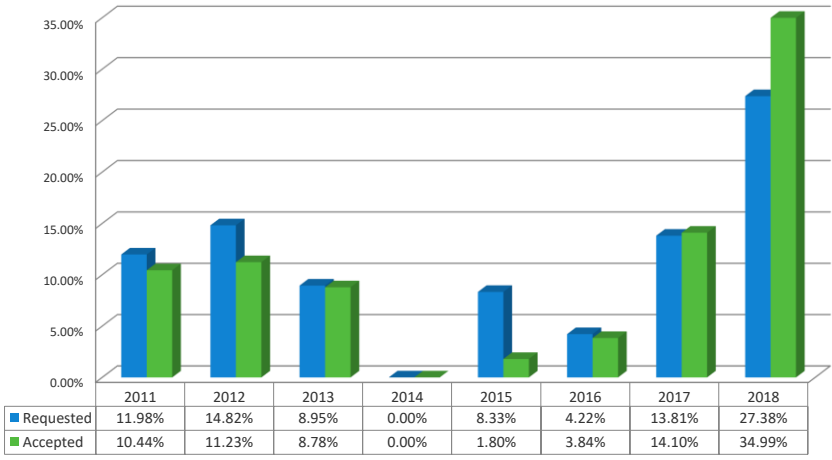


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Before administration's actions, premium increases were stabilizing



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Additional steps WA has taken to stabilize the market

Passed legislation:

- House Bill 2408 – starting in 2020, require insurers to offer some plans in every county where they serve state and school employees

Writing rules where we can:

- Increased rating regions to encourage coverage in rural areas
- Restricting sale of short-term limited duration health plans

Working closely with insurers:

- Attempting to understand latest action by administration to suspend Risk Adjustment payments

