



*News from:*  
**COMPTROLLER KEVIN LEMBO**

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**COMPTROLLER LEMBO ANNOUNCES NATIONAL STUDY OF  
HEALTH ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**

Comptroller Kevin Lembo today announced that Connecticut's new Health Enhancement Program (HEP) – designed to reduce state health care costs by encouraging preventive care – will be the subject of a national study by the University of Michigan's Center for Value-Based Insurance Design (V-BID Center).

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, one of the nation's most esteemed health-care foundations, has chosen to fund the Connecticut study by the University of Michigan V-BID Center.

Beginning July 1, the center will launch a two-year research project on the HEP to examine what impact this Connecticut health-care innovation will have on overall costs; preventive care utilization; health outcomes; and other factors.

Lembo said this national study – conducted at no cost to Connecticut taxpayers – could have cost the state hundreds of thousands of dollars to perform on its own, and has the potential to provide significant future savings by identifying additional avenues for the state to add more value to its state plan.

"Connecticut's health care innovation is prompting a national study – and could become a model for public and private employers across the United States," Lembo said.

"The Health Enhancement Program philosophy is simple: In every other aspect of our life, we know that preventive maintenance – like regular oil changes for our vehicles – saves us significant dollars and hardship over time. The same is true with health care that focuses on preventing diseases and conditions – or at least treating them early before they advance into

more serious health concerns.

“The Health Enhancement Program is one of several ongoing initiatives – the result of statewide collaboration – to reform and bend the cost curve in health care.”

Thomas C. Woodruff, Ph.D., Director of the Office of the State Comptroller’s Healthcare Policy and Benefit Services Division, said “This national study is a significant opportunity for Connecticut, providing a comprehensive analysis of the Health Enhancement Program that will cover everything from health outcomes to financial outcomes.”

For more information about how the Health Enhancement Program works, visit the Office of the State Comptroller’s website at [www.osc.ct.gov](http://www.osc.ct.gov) and click on the link at the right side of the page titled: “Health Enhancement Program.”

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