

# STATE OF COLORADO

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

136 State Capitol  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone (303) 866-2471  
Fax (303) 866-2003



John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

October 8, 2012

Mr. Gary Cohen  
Deputy Administrator & Director  
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Suite 739H  
Washington, DC 20201

Via regular mail and email to [state.exchange.group@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:state.exchange.group@cms.hhs.gov)

Dear Mr. Cohen:

We are pleased to submit this letter declaring our intent to operate a state-based exchange. In May 2011, the Colorado General Assembly passed Senate Bill 11-200 with bipartisan support, creating the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange (Exchange). This Exchange enabling legislation has been codified at Colo. Rev. Stat. 10-22-101, *et seq.*

In accordance with guidance from the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO), we further declare our intent regarding the following operational issues:

- Colorado will not be administering its own reinsurance or risk adjustment programs in the first year of Exchange operations.
- Colorado has been and will continue to develop eligibility processes and procedures for the Exchange to make eligibility determinations for Advance Premium Tax Credits (APTC) and Cost-Sharing Reductions (CSR).

Patty Fontneau is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Exchange and will be the primary point of contact with CCIIO regarding the Exchange. In her official capacity, Ms. Fontneau is authorized by the Exchange enabling legislation and the Exchange Board of Directors to complete and sign the Exchange Application and to enter into contracts between Colorado's Exchange and the federal government.

We look forward to working collaboratively with CCIIO to obtain approval for a state-based Exchange, ensuring that the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange is operational and ready for business by 2014.

Sincerely,

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor