



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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January 22, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

On behalf of the State of Michigan, I hereby submit this declaration letter confirming Michigan's intent to participate in a State Partnership Exchange for 2014. Michigan intends to perform the Plan Management function of a partnership exchange, as well as the Consumer Assistance function subject to the availability of federal funding. Also, at this time, Michigan does not intend to administer its own reinsurance program.

There remain concerns over the lack of detailed federal guidance as it relates to many aspects of this partnership exchange and its implications for our residents, our job providers and our state budget. As such, there is potential for changes to Michigan's framework as more complete information is issued by the federal government.

I continue to believe that a State-Based Exchange that provides the highest level of customer service and is tailored to meet Michigan's needs is the optimal solution for our State. However, given the current federal framework and time frames, a State Partnership Exchange is more operationally feasible at this time for the open enrollment period scheduled to begin October 1, 2013.

Steve Arwood, Acting Director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, and Chris Priest, Project Manager for the MIHealth Marketplace Project, will be Michigan's contacts for HHS. They are vested with the authority to bind the State with HHS regarding Michigan's Exchange, including on issues related to Exchange eligibility determination and coordination, and to complete and sign the Exchange application. Director Arwood and Mr. Priest, in addition to other state officials, are already working closely with your team to execute the various components of this State Partnership Exchange.

I look forward to working together on this matter to ensure that this State Partnership Exchange is a useful gateway for Michigan citizens to obtain access to affordable health coverage.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder
Governor