



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1900 KANAWHA BOULEVARD, EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25305
(304) 558-2000

EARL RAY TOMBLIN
GOVERNOR

February 15, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary
United States Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW, Suite 739H
Washington DC, 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

Please accept this letter as acknowledgement that the State of West Virginia has the intent to participate in a State Partnership Exchange (SPE) in Plan Management and for components of Consumer Assistance for plan year 2014. West Virginia does not intend to develop a large scale marketing campaign promoting the health benefit exchange. Additionally, West Virginia does not intend to manage the day to day activities of federal Navigators. Finally, West Virginia does not intend to operate the reinsurance program for plan year 2014.

West Virginia retains the ability to modify the stated intent to proceed in a State Partnership Exchange until appropriate State analysis of forthcoming federal rules and guidance occurs. In addition, the State will only proceed with SPE operations as long as sufficient federal funding is available to cover all SPE costs. Furthermore, West Virginia will continue to evaluate all available options concerning the Health Benefit Exchange so as to ensure that the most fiscally prudent and consumer-conscious approach is adopted in West Virginia.

The Health Benefit Exchange and other provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will have significant implications for West Virginia. My administration is committed to maintaining the sound fiscal stewardship that has been the hallmark of our State for 25 years. We are also committed to improving population health so as to enhance the quality of life of our citizens and to reduce the cost from poor health felt by families, businesses, and taxpayers.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner, headed by Commissioner Mike Riley, will be the primary agency in charge of Exchange activities in West Virginia. Jeremiah Samples, Director of Health Policy for the Insurance Commission, will be the point of contact with HHS regarding our application and other Exchange implementation issues. Ms. Nancy Atkins will be the point of contact for Medicaid eligibility determination issues. Ms. Sharon Carte will be the point of contact for CHIP related issues.

Thank you,



Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia

ERT: ko