



# State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

129 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301-3857  
603-271-9200 FAX: 603-271-4912 TDD ACCESS: RELAY NH 1-800-735-2964

JEFFREY A. MEYERS  
COMMISSIONER

July 9, 2019

Mr. Calder Lynch  
Deputy Administrator and Acting Director  
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services  
Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244

*Re: Notice of Temporary Delay in Implementation of Community Engagement Requirement Under Waiver No. 11-W-00298/1*

Dear Calder:

I am writing to provide you with notice pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Terms and Conditions of New Hampshire's Granite Advantage Waiver that the state will be delaying the implementation of the community engagement requirement through September 30, 2019 in order to continue our outreach and education efforts regarding this new requirement. Yesterday, Governor Christopher Sununu and I announced this temporary delay based upon the response of Granite Advantage members to date to our outreach efforts and our very real concern that many members would unintentionally lose coverage.

Governor Sununu yesterday signed into law Senate Bill 290 (enclosed), which makes certain changes to the state statute governing the community engagement requirement and also provided me, as commissioner, with authority to waive the application of the requirement under certain identified circumstances. Under that authority, I have temporarily waived the application of the requirement through September 30, 2019. A copy of my determination and findings is enclosed.

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services undertook an unprecedented effort to reach out to the Granite Advantage members since last Fall. These efforts included 11 separate public information sessions in very part of the state; over 50,000 telephone calls to members; radio advertisements that ran for 8 weeks over 98 radio stations intended to drive members to our 11 district offices for individual counselling on the community engagement program; four separate mailings; and, in recent days, over 1,500 home visits to members from whom we have received no information.

As documented in our Granite Advantage Waiver, the department has a "no-wrong door" policy for reporting information. Members could report their qualifying activities and exemptions in multiple ways, including by telephone and facsimile, going to a district office, by mail or online. No new or special accounts were required for this purpose.

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Despite these efforts, nearly 17,000 Granite Advantage members did not report information establishing their compliance for the month of June 2019.

The Department will continue its outreach efforts during the following three months. We will continue to assess the readiness of the population for this new program. In the meantime, we do wish to consult with your waiver team to discuss how the state will proceed to amend its current waiver to make the changes required by Senate Bill 290. These include changes to qualifying activities and exemptions, as well as a change in the waiver of retroactive eligibility. Please note that the waiver of retroactive eligibility was implemented by the state in January 2019 and my actions yesterday do not change the status of that waiver.

We look forward to speaking with you and your team soon. Please contact me should you have any questions.

All regards.

Sincerely,  
/s/

Jeffrey A. Meyers  
Commissioner

#### Enclosures

cc: Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
Henry Lipman, NH Medicaid Director  
Judith Cash, CMCS Waiver Group