

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

February 19, 2014

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4257 Washington, DC 20201

Dear Madam Secretary:

On behalf of the citizens of Pennsylvania, I am pleased to submit to the U.S Department of Health and Human Services the enclosed *Healthy Pennsylvania* Section 1115 Demonstration waiver application. The reforms and coverage options proposed in the *Healthy Pennsylvania* Demonstration waiver application align with and promote the three key health care priorities of my *Healthy Pennsylvania* plan: improving access, ensuring quality, and providing affordability.

The application outlines a reformed Medicaid program for Pennsylvania, the promotion of personal responsibility and how the commonwealth will increase access to private health insurance for more than 500,000 low-income Pennsylvanians who are uninsured. This waiver application plays a critical role in achieving the goal of increasing access to quality, affordable health care and is built upon common sense reforms that provide coverage options to our most vulnerable citizens in a flexible and sustainable way that protects taxpayers.

The waiver I submit today reflects input from state legislators, local governmental entities, providers and the general public. It also reflects consultation with your staff and staff from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services over the last several months. In conjunction with this waiver, Pennsylvania will also be submitting State Plan Amendments to secure federal funding.

Submission of this waiver represents the next step in placing Pennsylvania's Medicaid program on a sustainable path that will allow the commonwealth to provide increased access to private health care coverage options to more Pennsylvanians. We appreciate the assistance your department has offered to date and I respectfully request that your agency review and provide timely approval of the entire waiver I submit today. I look forward to your continued support of Pennsylvania as we implement the *Healthy Pennsylvania* Demonstration.

Sincerely,

TOM CORBETT

Governor