DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
1301 Young Street, Room 833
Dallas, Texas 75202

Division of Medicaid & Children's Health, Region VI

March 16, 2011

Our Reference: SPA TX 10-86

Mr. Billy Millwee
Associate Commissioner for Medicaid & CHIP
Health and Human Services Commission
Post Office Box 13247
Mail Code: H100
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Millwee:

We have reviewed the State's proposed amendment to the Texas State Plan submitted under Transmittal Number 10-86, dated December 28, 2010. This state plan amendment implements a reimbursement reduction of one percent for hospital outpatient services.

Additionally, please note that when the State submits a State Plan Amendment (SPA) that may impact Indians or Indian health providers, CMS will look for evidence of the State's Tribal consultation process for that SPA. Pursuant to the new section 1902(a) (73) of the Act added by section 5006(e) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the State must submit evidence to CMS regarding the solicitation of advice prior to submission of the State Plan Amendment. Such consultation must include all federally-recognized tribes, Indian Health Service and Urban Indian Organizations within the State.

Based on the information submitted, we have approved the amendment for incorporation into the official Texas State Plan with an effective date change of February 1, 2011. A copy of the CMS-179 and the approved plan pages are enclosed with this letter.

CMS is approving this state plan amendment; however, due to concerns regarding potential problems with access to care, CMS will continue to inquire about the results of the State's planned efforts to monitor access to care to help determine whether it has been negatively affected by this rate reduction or due to the State's rate reductions. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Rupley at (214) 767-6278.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bill Brooks
Associate Regional Administrator

Enclosures
cc: Emily Zalkovsky, Policy Development Support