



Nancy Wyman

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

September 30, 2014

Re: Independent Consumer Advocates' Concerns about and Request for Revisions to Medicaid-Related Provisions in Connecticut's State Innovation Model Grant Proposal, dated July 19, 2014

Dear Independent Consumer Advocates:

We appreciate the concerns raised in your letter of September 12, 2014 to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, and your longstanding commitment to our Medicaid program and its clients. We acknowledge that we have accelerated our commitment to the use of a shared savings program as one means to achieve our shared vision for better healthcare for Medicaid beneficiaries.

While developing Connecticut's SIM grant application and in the application itself, we provided assurances that the Department of Social Services ("Department") will engage the care management committee of the Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council to review and comment on all aspects of the shared savings program design and the selection of provider participants. This process will enable advocates to further articulate issues of interest and concern, and work with the Department to refine the program's design to ensure protection of beneficiary interests.

The Department previously released information about Medicaid participation in SIM in a report entitled "[DSS Response to SIM Questions](#)," which responds to some of the questions raised in your September 12th letter. Your letter also discusses the importance of assessing the effects of shared savings on other populations. There are a number of Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) in Connecticut and still more, longer standing ACO-type arrangements in other states, involving Medicare but also commercial payers. We will ask the Equity Access Council to review whether the experience with these other populations can inform our efforts here in Connecticut.

We look forward to working with you during the implementation of our multiple efforts in SIM to improve the health of our state's population.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Nancy Wyman in black ink.

Nancy Wyman
Lt. Governor

Handwritten signature of Roderick Bremby in blue ink.

Roderick Bremby
Commissioner, Department of Social Services