STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

July 9, 2012

Mike Hash, Interim Director
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue SW, Suite 739H
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Hash:

I am pleased to submit this Declaration Letter confirming New York's intent to establish a State-based Health Benefit Exchange consistent with the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

On April 12, 2012, I issued an Executive Order establishing the New York Health Benefit Exchange. The Executive Order establishes the Exchange within the Department of Health (DOH) and directs the DOH to work in conjunction with the Department of Financial Services (DFS) and other state agencies to take all steps necessary to effectuate the Exchange and to carry out the requirements and serve the goals of the ACA.

As an Early Innovator State, New York is actively working to build an easy-to-use, web-based eligibility and enrollment system as envisioned by the ACA. As part of this system, the New York Health Benefit Exchange will perform Advance Premium Tax Credit (APTC)/Cost-Sharing Reduction (CSR) eligibility determinations.

Ms. Donna Frescatore, who will serve as the Executive Director of the New York Health Benefit Exchange, will act as the primary point of contact for New York's Exchange Blueprint Application.

I look forward to continuing to work together with President Obama's administration to ensure accessible, quality care for all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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