



**M. Jodi Rell**  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

July 19, 2010

The Hon. Kathleen Sebelius  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

I am pleased to inform you that Connecticut will enter into a contract with the Department of Health and Human Services to operate a federally-subsidized Temporary High-Risk Pool program, as provided for in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

This state-operated program will be responsive to Connecticut residents and well-coordinated with other existing coverage options available through our Department of Social Services. We appreciate DHHS's recent approval of the methodology for Connecticut's revised, lower premium rates, which I believe will be within the reach of many residents with pre-existing conditions.

We intend to open the new program to applicants on August 1, 2010, with the goal of beginning enrollment by September 1.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) will administer this program. The DSS enrollment contractor (ACS Inc.) will handle applications to the Temporary High-Risk Pool program, in addition to receiving applications for Medicaid managed care, Children's Health Insurance Program, and the state-funded Charter Oak Health Plan. The new program will be administered by the Health Reinsurance Association under contract with DSS.

Connecticut would like to thank your Department and, especially, the team of Anthony Culotta, Richard Popper and Erin Sutton for their work in helping us get to this stage of an executed contract.

On a related note, I appreciated a visit last week from your Region 1 Regional Director, Christie Hager, to discuss issues of mutual interest. We look forward to continued collaboration with DHHS, including with our colleagues at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell  
Governor