



Illinois Department of Insurance

PAT QUINN
Governor

Michael T. McRaith
Director

April 9, 2010

Via Electronic Mail (highriskpools@cms.hhs.gov)
and First Class Mail

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

Re: ***High Risk Pool Expansion -- Expression of Interest.***

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

By this letter, the State of Illinois expresses its interest and intention to participate in the temporary high risk pool program described in your letter to Governor Quinn dated April 2, 2010.

Illinois intends to implement the expansion with reliance upon the infrastructure of the State's existing high risk pools, known as the "Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan," or ICHIP.

ICHIP is not a governmental agency but a "political subdivision and body politic and corporate and, as such, is not a State agency." ICHIP operates subject to the direction of an all-volunteer Board of Directors. Accordingly, Illinois will pursue the operation of a "new high risk pool alongside a current state high risk pool."

For purposes of the high risk pool expansion in Illinois, please communicate with:

Michael T. McRaith, Director
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We look forward to working with you and assuring the successful implementation of this important component of health reform.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. McRaith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being the most prominent.

Michael T. McRaith
Director

MTM:srb

cc: Michael Gelder, Office of Governor Pat Quinn