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**Name of Chapter Press Statement on Cancelled Health Plans**

(City, State) – The Chapter Association of Health Underwriters (XAHU) made the following statement in response to President Obama’s proposed changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in light of the nearly five million cancelled health plans. XAHU President First and Last Name made the following statement:

“XAHU’s top priority has always been making sure Americans have access to affordable and appropriate health coverage. Our chapter members work every day with individuals, families and employers of all sizes to help them purchase health insurance coverage and use that coverage in the best possible way. For the last three years, we have been educating our individual clients and making sure their small and large business clients are compliant with the ACA.

“XAHU has extreme concerns with the technical issues surrounding Healthcare.gov and the recent announcement to delay the enforcement of the ACA’s market reforms. Changing the benefit requirements at this late juncture could negatively impact the market and result in higher premiums and fewer choices for consumers.

“We are pleased that the president acknowledged that health insurance is complicated to buy in any scenario but especially with the introduction of the new marketplaces. We have a simple answer: Call a professional health insurance agent or broker. They are licensed and trained to help consumers and businesses navigate the complexities of health reform in the private market as well as through the new exchanges. This personal and professional assistance is available to everyone purchasing coverage in the marketplace at **no additional cost**.

“Insurance agents and brokers are qualified, licensed and marketplace-certified professionals who are eager to assist consumers enrolling in both the federal and state-based marketplaces. As consumers continue to struggle to complete their enrollments, we believe that agents and brokers can provide a vital role with this critical step. However, health insurance agents and brokers have not yet been given the necessary tools to make this happen. Fixing the issues that don’t allow agents and brokers to help consumers enroll in the new exchanges should be a top concern for the Administration.”

The National Association of Health Underwriters represents 100,000 professional health insurance agents and brokers who provide insurance for millions of Americans. For more information, please call *(insert contact name, phone number and email address).*

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