

June 18, 2014

«First\_Name» «Last\_Name»
«Address\_Line\_1»
«Address\_Line\_2»
«City» «State» «Zip»

Re: Notice of Proposed Premium Rate Change «Plan», HIOS #«HIOS»

Dear «First Name» «Last Name»:

Freelancers Health Service Corporation (doing business as Health Republic Insurance of New York) is filing a request with the New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS) to approve a change to your premium rates for 2015. New York Insurance Law requires that we provide a notice to you when we submit requests for premium rate changes to DFS. DFS is required by law to review our requested rate change. DFS may approve, modify or disapprove the requested rate change.

## **Proposed Premium Rate Change**

Your current monthly premium is: «Current\_Premium»

If approved, the proposed monthly premium is «Proposed\_2015\_Premium»

If you enrolled through the NY State of Health, the state's health plan marketplace, and you qualified for financial assistance, called an Advanced Premium Tax Credit, your current premium is less than the amount shown above and your 2015 premium will be less than shown above if you qualify for the APTC again next year. NY State of Health will calculate your eligibility for financial assistance each year.

Please note that while we try to provide you with the most accurate information possible, the final rate may differ based on the benefit plan design and other features you select on renewal. Also, the final, approved rate may differ because DFS may modify the proposed rate.

## Why We are Requesting a Rate Change

Health Republic Insurance of New York is committed to providing low-cost, high-quality health coverage and is proud to be among the most affordable options for individual New Yorkers and small businesses across the state. Health Republic launched in 2014 as New York's only not-for-profit Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan, or CO-OP, in the midst of a transformative year in healthcare, with improved access to coverage for people across the state.

In 2014, other health plans in your area were on average 24% higher than Health Republic. As a member-run, not-for-profit plan, we want coverage for our members to be as affordable as possible, but we must be sustainable. It is necessary for us to seek a rate increase in 2015 due to increasing medical costs, declining federal support, and to ensure our organization achieves long-term sustainability as New York's only not-for-profit CO-OP. Even with the proposed increase, Health Republic is confident that it will be among the most affordable options for individual New Yorkers and small businesses in 2015 and for many years to come.

#### **30-day Comment Period**

You can contact us or DFS to ask for more information or submit comments to DFS about the proposed rate changes. The comments must be made within 30 days from the date of this notice.

You can contact Health Republic Insurance of New York for additional information at:

Health Republic Insurance of New York

Attn: Comment Period

P.O. Box 1059

New York, NY 10272

888-990-5702 (At the main menu prompt, select 2 for the "Health Republic Member" option, then select 1)

Email: Comment@newyork.healthrepublic.us

Health Republic Website: https://newyork.healthrepublic.us/

Comments or requests for more information on the proposed rate change may be submitted to:

NYS Department of Financial Services

Health Bureau – Premium Rate Adjustments

1 State Street

New York, NY 10004

Email: premiumrateincreases@dfs.ny.gov

DFS Website: www.dfs.ny.gov/healthinsurancepremiums

If you choose to submit comments to DFS, please include the following information:

- 1. The name of your insurer, which is Freelancers Health Services Corporation d/b/a Health Republic Insurance of New York
- 2. The name of your plan which is «Plan»
- 3. Your type of policy, which is individual coverage
- 4. Your HIOS identification number, which is «HIOS»

Written comments submitted to DFS will be posted on the DFS website with all your personal information removed.

## **Plain English Summary of Rate Change**

We have prepared a plain-English summary that provides a more detailed explanation of the reasons why a premium rate change is being requested. You can find this information at the following websites:

Health Republic Insurance of New York website: https://newyork.healthrepublic.us/rate-summary

DFS website: www.dfs.ny.gov/healthinsurancepremiums.

# **Notice of Approved Premium Rate**

After DFS approves the final premium rate, you will receive final rate information at least 60 days before your 2015 renewal date.

Sincerely,

Health Republic Insurance of New York Member Services HRINY\_RateNoticeIPD\_6214