



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Mark Dayton

130 State Capitol • 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard • Saint Paul, MN 55155

November 15, 2012

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Re: State of Minnesota Exchange Declaration Letter

Dear Madam Secretary:

I am delighted to submit Minnesota's Exchange Blueprint application and confirm Minnesota's intent to develop and operate a State-based Health Insurance Exchange. I strongly share your commitment, and that of President Obama, to ensuring access to affordable, high quality, health care coverage for all Minnesotans. Our State-based Exchange will give over 1.2 million Minnesotans – both individuals and small businesses – more affordable options for choosing high quality health insurance.

Some elements of our Exchange Blueprint application will be finalized by legislative action early in the 2013 Legislative Session. Specifically, these include decisions on Exchange governance, long-term financing, and state policy related to navigators and brokers. Minnesota will not administer a state reinsurance program and will defer to federal operation of this program. Minnesota will not administer a state risk adjustment program in the first year of operation and will defer to federal operation of the risk adjustment program for Minnesota in 2014. However, we reserve the right to develop and operate a state-based risk adjustment program in the future and will discuss that issue with the Minnesota Legislature in the upcoming session. Minnesota will perform Advance Premium Tax Credit/Cost Sharing Reductions eligibility determinations.

I designate Mr. James Schowalter, Commissioner, Minnesota Management and Budget, as the individual authorized to bind the State with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regarding Minnesota's Exchange. I authorize Ms. April Todd-Malmlov, Exchange Executive Director, as the primary point of contact for Minnesota Exchange activities. She has the authority to electronically attest to the facts in Minnesota's Exchange Blueprint application.

Sincerely,  
  
Mark Dayton  
Governor

cc: Mr. James Schowalter, Commissioner, Minnesota Management and Budget  
Mr. Mike Rothman, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce  
Ms. Lucinda Jesson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Dr. Edward P. Ehlinger, MD, MSPH, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health  
Ms. Carolyn Parnell, Commissioner, Minnesota IT Services  
Ms. April Todd-Malmlov, Executive Director, Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange