



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

**Pat Quinn**  
GOVERNOR

October 16, 2012

Gary Cohen  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight  
200 Independence Avenue SW, Suite 739H  
Washington DC, 20201

Dear Acting Director Cohen,

Please accept this letter as acknowledgement that the State of Illinois will participate in a State Partnership Exchange for plan year 2014. In addition, I would like to confirm our decision to pursue both the plan management and consumer assistance functions that are enabled under the State Partnership Exchange. Illinois does not intend to operate our own reinsurance program for plan year 2014.

Illinois Department of Insurance Director Andrew Boron will be the primary point of contact with HHS regarding our application. In regards to eligibility determination and coordination, Illinois Healthcare and Family Services Director Julie Hamos will be the point of contact.

Access to health care has been a high priority for me throughout my entire career. We are looking forward to this opportunity to partner with you during the first year of the Exchange. The state of Illinois sees this partnership as a bridge to running our own state-based Exchange. While we will be working with you over the next year to ensure the people of Illinois have comprehensive and affordable coverage through the Exchange, I'm committed to working with the Illinois General Assembly to pass legislation with governance and financing language that will allow us to operate a state-based Exchange beginning in 2015.

We must take advantage of this unique opportunity to increase access to quality health care and improve the health of the people of Illinois. The citizens of our state deserve all the benefits afforded to them under the Affordable Care Act and I look forward to working with you to ensure this opportunity is fulfilled.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Quinn".

**Pat Quinn**  
Governor