

PRESS RELEASE

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Insurance Commissioner Gives Green Light to Policy Renewals

Concord, New Hampshire – November 25, 2013 -- Insurance Commissioner Roger Sevigny issued a bulletin today allowing New Hampshire insurers to renew 2013 health plans in 2014, in accordance with a recent federal policy change. On November 14, President Obama and the federal Department of Health and Human Services announced that they will not force insurance companies to replace 2013 policies with new, ACA-compliant policies in 2014. Instead, consumers can renew their 2013 policies until October 1, 2014, so long as both their insurer and their state regulators are willing.

“New Hampshire will allow health insurers, if they choose, to renew 2013 coverage for consumers who would like to keep their current plans,” said Commissioner Sevigny. “To ensure seamless coverage, consumers should contact their insurance carriers now to find out whether this option is available. Consumers should keep in mind, however, that federal financial assistance is only available for those buying coverage through the federal healthcare.gov website.”

Last week, Commissioner Sevigny ordered that the state’s high risk pool remain open until consumers have full access to coverage through healthcare.gov, which has struggled with technical problems. In addition, the state’s predominant carrier, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Hampshire, has agreed to renew 2013 policies until November 30, 2013.