FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 5, 2021

Contact: Tiffany Fuller, Consumer Outreach Coordinator, (603) 271-3886, tiffany.d.fuller@ins.nh.gov

NH Insurance Department Issues Guidance to Blue Cross Blue Shield Subscribers

CONCORD, NH – Those who have had health insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield may be entitled to file a claim, following an Oct. 16, 2020 settlement agreement arising from a class action antitrust lawsuit.

The multistate lawsuit, <u>In. re: Blue Cross Blue Shield Antitrust Litigation MDL 2406, N.D. Ala., Master File No. 2:13-cv-20000-RDP</u>, was reached on behalf of individuals and companies across the country who had purchased or received health insurance through a Blue Cross Blue Shield plan.

The claims filing deadline is Nov. 5, 2021, and claims must be filed through the Blue Cross Blue Shield settlement website, <u>found here</u>. The website provides a link to file a claim as well as answers to frequently asked questions and key dates.

"Subscribers are strongly encouraged to visit the Blue Cross Blue Shield settlement website to better understand the settlement and to determine if they are eligible to file a claim," Deputy Insurance Commissioner D.J. Bettencourt said. "Last week, the claims administrator for the case sent mailers to those potentially eligible for a portion of the settlement which generated inquiries to the department as to whether those mailers were legitimate. We want to be clear that this is not a scam and is a legitimate opportunity for eligible consumers."

The settlement is the result of allegations of violated antitrust laws, so it is important to note that the court has not decided who is right or wrong, only that the Plaintiffs and Defendants have agreed to avoid further litigation. Further, this settlement is not reflective of any action by Anthem of New Hampshire.

"For New Hampshire subscribers, this means you have a right to know about the proposed settlement and decide if you should file a claim," Director of Consumer Services Keith Nyhan said.

Anyone who has received notification of this class action antitrust lawsuit and has questions or concerns is asked to contact the NH Insurance Department, either by phone at 800-852-3416 or 603-271-2261, or by email at consumerservices@ins.nh.gov.

The New Hampshire Insurance Department Can Help

The New Hampshire Insurance Department's mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. Contact us with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your insurance coverage at 800-852-3416 or 603-271-2261, or by email at consumerservices@ins.nh.gov. For more information, visit www.nh.gov/insurance.