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New Hampshire Insurance Department Announces Public Forum Date for State Health Insurance Reinsurance Program

Concord, NH - Pursuant to Federal requirements, a public forum on the state's Section 1332 Waiver will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 10am via <u>webinar.</u>

The New Hampshire Reinsurance Program will reimburse insurers based on their liability for high-cost claims. The program complies with all federal statutory requirements for Section 1332 Waivers related to comprehensiveness and affordability of coverage, access to coverage and federal spending and is expected to lower premium costs in New Hampshire's individual market

In early 2020, the New Hampshire Insurance Department filed a Section 1332 State Relief and Empowerment Waiver application with the federal government to promote stability in the state's individual health insurance market. The Department anticipated that the creation of a state-based reinsurance program could reduce 2021 premiums for the individual health insurance market by approximately 15%, over what they would have been otherwise.

"The 1332 State Relief and Empowerment Waiver for a state-based reinsurance program was approved in August of 2020," said Insurance Commissioner Chris Nicolopoulos. "The Department had anticipated this effort would lead to reductions in 2021 premiums and increased enrollment for the individual health insurance market. We are pleased to see reductions in the individual health insurance market as great as 15.8% already in 2021 and a steady increase in enrollment in the individual market as of May of 2021."

"New Hampshire's 1332 reinsurance waiver has been a tremendous success story," said Deputy Insurance Commissioner D.J. Bettencourt. "It has helped to preserve and stabilize New Hampshire's individual health insurance market, has kept our state's three current insurance companies in the market, has lowered premiums for three consecutive years, and has saved taxpayers significant amounts of money. We look forward to hearing from the public to share with us the impact that it has had on them."

Access information for the forum can be found by visiting the NH Insurance Department website. More information about New Hampshire's Section 1332 Waiver and the New Hampshire Reinsurance Program is available at NHHP 1332 page. Questions and comments will be accepted in writing through July 6, 2021. Written questions and comments should be submitted to awhipple@pcqus.com or to New Hampshire Health Plan, C/O Michael Degnan, Helms & Company, Inc.,1 Pillsbury Street, Suite 200, Concord, NH 03301.

Additional information regarding the 1332 waiver can be found by visiting the NH Insurance Department's <u>website</u>.

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 1-800- 852-3416 or (603) 271-2261, or by email at consumerservices@ins.nh.gov. For more information, visit www.nh.gov/insurance.

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