

Sent on Behalf of Director McRaith

Good Afternoon,

As you know, the federal health care reform bill, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), was signed into law by President Obama on March 23, 2010. The insurance reforms of the ACA culminate with the establishment of an "American Health Benefits Exchange" ("Exchange") on January 1, 2014.

Every state confronts decision points that require a knowledge and understanding of the Exchange-related options for the State. To support the education of policymakers and interested parties regarding an Exchange, the Department of Insurance (DOI) is launching a series of education webinars. Other webinars may address other aspects of the ACA, including the federally required review of "unreasonable" rate increases.

Please plan to participate in the first of these educational webinars, "*Basics of an Exchange*". This particular presentation will cover: 1) the ACA requirements for an Exchange; and 2) an overview of the open policy questions to be decided by State policymakers (*e.g.*, governance options for the Exchange). Future webinars will explore such policy questions in more detail.

The presentation is scheduled to last approximately 45 minutes, with an opportunity for questions and answers. Questions may be submitted at any point **during** the webinar by sending an email to doi.webinars@illinois.gov. For details about the technical requirements necessary to participate in the webinar, please visit insurance.illinois.gov/webinars in advance.

For those unable to participate, the written presentation and an audio recording of the presentation will be available on both the Department of Insurance website (insurance.illinois.gov), and the Governor's Health Reform Implementation website (healthcarereform.illinois.gov).

TOPIC: Basics of an Exchange
DATE: Tuesday, December 14, 2010
TIME: 2:00 PM CST
WEB ADDRESS: insurance.illinois.gov/webinars

We look forward to your participation.

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