October 30, 2013

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

RE: Long Term Care Partnership Program State Plan Amendment

This letter, in compliance with Section 6505 of the Affordable Care Act, serves as notice of intent to all Tribal Chairs and Health Directors of the request by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to submit a State Plan Amendment that would allow the development and implementation of a partnership program in Michigan.

On November 30, 2007, the Michigan Social Welfare Act was amended to direct MDCH and other state agencies to implement a Long Term Care (LTC) partnership program in Michigan. Long Term Care partnership programs allow individuals to purchase insurance policies for a set amount of private coverage for future qualifying expenses. When the private coverage is exhausted, these policies help protect covered assets during the Medicaid eligibility and estate recovery processes. By partnering with insurance carriers, states can encourage individuals to purchase private coverage to help fund their future LTC expenses. While certain income, resources and property remain exempt from Medicaid estate recovery, there are instances where ownership interests in assets and property are not protected and could be subject to estate recovery.

You may submit comments regarding this Notice of Intent to msapolicy@michigan.gov. If you would like to discuss the Notice of Intent, please contact Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDCH Liaison to the Michigan Tribes. Lorna can be reached at (517) 373-4963 or via e-mail at Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov.

There is no public hearing scheduled for this State Plan Amendment.

Sincerely,

Stephen Fitton, Director
Medical Services Administration

cc: Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS
    Pamela Carson, Region V, CMS
    Ashley Tuomi, MHPA, Executive Director, American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan
    L. John Lufkins, Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.
    Jenny Jenkins, Acting Area Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office
    Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDCH
Distribution List for L 13-60
October 30, 2013

Mr. Kurt Perron, Tribal Chairman, Bay Mills Indian Community
Ms. Vicki Newland, Health Director, Bay Mills (Ellen Marshall Memorial Center)
Mr. Alvin Pedwaydon, Tribal Chairman, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
Ms. Loi Chambers, Health Director, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa/Chippewa
Mr. Kenneth Meshigaud, Tribal Chairman, Hannahville Indian Community
Ms. G. Susie Meshigaud, Health Director, Hannahville Health Center
Mr. W. Chris Swartz, President, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Ms. Carole LaPointe, Health Director, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Donald Lapointe Health/Educ Facility
Mr. James Williams, Jr., Tribal Chairman, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Ms. Terry Fox, Health Director, Lac Vieux Desert Band
Mr. Larry Romanelli, Ogema, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Mr. Robin Carufel, Health Director, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Mr. Fred Kiogima, Tribal Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Ms. Sharon Sierzputowski, Health Director, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa
Mr. DK Sprague, Tribal Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Band)
Ms. Phyllis Davis, Health Director, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi
Mr. Homer Mandoka, Vice Tribal Chairman, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Rosalind Johnston, Health Director, Huron Potawatomi Inc.- Tribal Health Department
Mr. Matt Wesaw, Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Leslie Wesaw, Health Director, Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services
Mr. Dennis V. Kequom Sr, Tribal Chief, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Ms. Gail George, Health Director, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Mr. Aaron Payment, Tribal Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Ms. Bonnie Culfa, Health Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Health Center

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