DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Administrator
Washington, DC 20201

NOV 4 2013

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0348

Dear Chairman Camp:

I am responding to your November 1, 2013, letter regarding information related to the number of individuals who have successfully enrolled in coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

Since the start of open enrollment on October 1, 2103, more than 20 million people have demonstrated their interest in learning more about their options for affordable health coverage by visiting the Federally-facilitated Marketplace. By October 25, nearly 700,000 applications for coverage were submitted, with more than half of those coming through the Federally-facilitated Marketplace. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) plans to release enrollment-related statistics on a monthly basis beginning in mid-November.

While I am aware that documents purporting to show certain enrollment-related numbers were submitted by a government contractor, LMI, to Congressional investigators and were subsequently released publicly, these documents appear to be notes and do not reflect official enrollment-related statistics. The numbers in the LMI notes, or any other current source of information, reflect daily snapshots of the number of transactions that were sent from the Data Services Hub to the Federally-facilitated Marketplace and then to issuers on that day. These daily snapshots may not capture missing transactions, duplicate transactions, or cancellations. Moreover, as you may know, actual enrollment in a plan does not occur until a premium payment is made to the issuer, which may not occur until December for coverage taking effect January 1, 2014.

CMS is focused on providing reliable and accurate enrollment-related information. We are currently working diligently to correct transactional errors and coordinate information from different sources such as paper applications, on-line applications, and call centers, while verifying such information with insurers, and collecting data from states. We expect to continue this process over the next two weeks, and release enrollment-related statistics in mid-November.

I appreciate your patience as we work to gather accurate enrollment-related information. We will provide that information to you as soon as it is available, and will continue to work with the Committee.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Tavenner

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