

File: Healthcare, FL
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Bromberg
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

08-Sep-1995 12:09pm

TO: Janice A. Enright
TO: Marcia L. Hale

FROM: Emily Bromberg
Intergovernmental Affairs

SUBJECT: Florida Health Care

FYI, for you guys and Harold, it looks like Florida may not have to submit an amendment to their health care waiver. HHS is looking into how much Florida can do with just an implementation plan that does not have to be reviewed and approved by HHS. If this works, Chiles can move very quickly to implement his plan without legislative approval. I'll update you as soon as I know more.

Harold- F-Y-1

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR HAROLD ICKES

FROM: JENNIFER O'CONNOR

SUBJECT: FLORIDA MEDICAID WAIVER

Attached is a memorandum on plain paper from the Department of Health and Human Services that explains the status of the Florida Medicaid Waiver request. Governor Chiles has asked the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) to approve this request by September 22.

Under this waiver, Florida would expand its Medicaid coverage to include an additional 200,000 uninsured people with incomes below 150% of the poverty line; newly insured individuals would be enrolled in county run health plans. The counties would match the federal contributions for these 200,000 newly insured individuals.

Currently, HHS, HCFA and OMB are reviewing the waiver request. They have identified some problem issues such as budget neutrality and absence of competitive bidding. They hope to be able to resolve these issues by September 22 as requested by the Governor.

Florida Requests Approval to Implement Medicaid Demonstration

Background

On September 13, Florida officials met with the HCFA Administrator to discuss an implementation plan for Florida's Medicaid demonstration, the Florida Health Security Act. Florida would like to immediately begin enrolling uninsured individuals (not currently eligible for Medicaid) below 150% of the Federal poverty level (FPL) into Community Health Partnerships (CHPs), which are county run health plans. The state hopes to enroll up to 200,000 additional individuals before the end of the year, depending on the capacity of the CHPs. The counties would put up the entire non-Federal share of the funds for the newly eligible. The Medicaid program for traditional eligibles would remain largely unchanged. Medicaid enrollment in HMOs, including CHPs, or primary care case management would continue to increase.

The CHPs were part of Florida's original demonstration which HCFA approved on September 15, 1994. The original plan would have used a managed competition model to provide health insurance for 1.1 million uninsured Floridians with income below 250% of the FPL. The program has not been implemented to date due to lack of support from the legislature.

Status

The state requested federal approval by September 22 to implement what they now term "phase one" of the FHS. The state believes they can implement the CHP under existing state legislative authority and that the special terms of the original demonstration would apply unchanged. The state plans to implement the full demonstration at a later date, pending legislative approval.

The Department and OMB are currently reviewing the state's request and have identified several issues (budget neutrality and absence of competitive bidding process) that we hope to resolve by the date requested.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Chief of Staff

Washington D.C. 20201

FACSIMILEDATE September 18, 1995

TO: (NAME, ORGANIZATION, CITY/STATE AND PHONE NUMBER):
Jennifer O'Connor

456-6350

FROM: (NAME, ORGANIZATION, CITY/STATE AND PHONE NUMBER):
Kevin Thurn
Chief of Staff

690-6133

RECIPIENT'S FAX NUMBER: () 456-7929

NUMBER OF PAGES TO SEND (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 2

COMMENTS:

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

Title Chief of Staff

September 18, 1995

NOTE TO Jennifer O'Connor

Attached is the information you requested.

If you have any questions, please feel free
to contact me at 690-6133.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary Beth Donahue".

Mary Beth Donahue