Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2013

The Honorable Pat Quinn
State of Illinois
Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

On November 13th, your office sent out a press release citing preliminary Obamacare enrollment numbers for the state of Illinois. According to those estimates, only 1,370 people selected a private plan through the federally facilitated marketplace (FFM). Yet, 19,447 have been preliminarily determined eligible for Medicaid - nearly 20 times those enrolled in private plans. We are writing to gather more information regarding those estimates to better understand how many Illinois residents have: (1) completed applications and purchased a private plan, and (2) been deemed possibly eligible for Medicaid but not previously enrolled versus those newly eligible to the program. We have been in regular contact with your office and remain concerned over the financial impact these Medicaid eligibility determinations could have on our state's struggling budget.

According to processes previously defined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the 19,447 applications were first assessed as potentially Medicaid eligible through the FFM, but were to be transferred to the state for further review and processing for a final eligibility determination. We understand from your staff that none of these applications have yet been transferred to the state, nor is processing expected to be operational until some time during December. As such, we would like to better understand the following:

- If the state is unable to fully process application transfers until December, we are concerned your office will be forced to rush the processing of such applications for coverage to begin on January 1, 2014. What policies has the State of Illinois implemented to ensure enrollment for day one coverage can take place in this short of a time frame?

- A recent audit noted an alarming 60 percent of Medicaid recipients were improperly enrolled in Illinois. While some of the applicants through the FFM may be newly eligible, many may be already enrolled in Medicaid and not know it. Others may be too quickly enrolled and later found to not be truly eligible. What procedures does the state

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of Illinois have in place to ensure applications they receive from the FFM will be accurately categorized as previously eligible, newly eligible, or not eligible for Medicaid?

- CMS projected Illinois had overpayments associated with Medicaid eligibility errors for FY2010 in excess of $171 million. What policies has the State of Illinois implemented to limit any future overpayments associated with eligibility errors, especially for determinations being made under rushed conditions in December for Medicaid recipients enrolled through the FFM?

- Moving forward, will you provide monthly reports on the: (1) number of Medicaid applications received through the FFM (beginning with the first application batch transfer); and (2) the number of a Medicaid applications received through the state agency (beginning on October 1, 2013; and (3) the total number of Illinois residents determined to be newly eligible, previously eligible, or not eligible at all for Medicaid (beginning with October 1, 2013)?

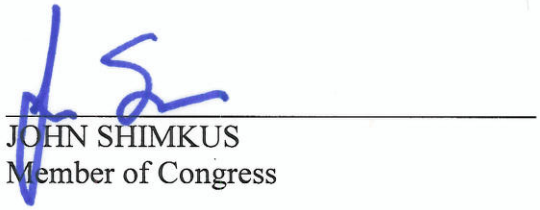
- How much funding has the State of Illinois specifically requested and approved in the FY2013 and FY2014 budget for the above mentioned activities?

- How many full-time staff has the State of Illinois dedicated towards these activities for FY2013 and FY2014?

Thank you for your attention to these questions as we all work to gather information and better understand the implementation processes behind Obamacare. We would request a response to our questions by **December 16th, 2013**. While only a little over two weeks before new mandates and plans go into effect in January, this will still allow us time to review and access the effect on our constituents with respect to both their health care and judicious use of their tax dollars.

Sincerely,

MARK KIRK
U.S. Senator



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CC: Julie Hamos, Director, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
David Vaught, Director, Office of Management and Budget, Office of the Governor