



Health Care Financing Administration

Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Family and Children's Health Programs Group
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

JUN 11 1999

Ms. Rochelle Chronister
Secretary
Department of Social
and Rehabilitation Services
Docking State Office Building
915 SW Harrison Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Ms. Chronister:

Thank you for your proposed amendment, dated March 30, 1999, to the State Children's Health Insurance Program under Title XXI of the Social Security Act. We are impressed with the efforts that Kansas has made to provide health care coverage to uninsured children. As you are aware, your proposed amendment has been undergoing review by the Department of Health and Human Services. However, the following additional information will be required in order to proceed with our review.

Section 2102(b)(3), requires that the State must do eligibility screening of and coordination with other health coverage programs to ensure that only targeted low income children are served. This section further states that "children found through the screening to be eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid plan under Title XIX are enrolled for such assistance under such plan." Your amendment to the plan proposes that an infant born to a HealthWave enrolled mother or into a family with a HealthWave child will be HealthWave eligible at least through the end of the current continuous 12 month period of the eligibility period of the family member. We believe the State must apply Medicaid screening and enrollment requirements, once the child is born because the status of the family has changed and the newborn may now be eligible for Medicaid.

We are concerned that HealthWave enrolled mothers under age 19 or siblings may be in income groups between 100% and 150%-- a level at which infants should be covered by Medicaid. While temporary coverage in HealthWave may be used to address issues of coverage from birth and continuity of care, newborns must be screened for Medicaid eligibility and enrolled in the appropriate program within a reasonable timeframe. Infants who are Medicaid eligible (up to 150% FPL) must be enrolled in Medicaid, and those above 150% FPL must be enrolled in HealthWave. Please describe the procedure that the State will use to ensure that all infants will be screened and enrolled in the correct program.

Page 2 - Ms. Rochelle Chronister

Under section 2106(c) of the Social Security Act, HCFA must either approve, disapprove, or request additional information on a proposed Title XXI State Plan within ninety days. This letter constitutes our notification that specified additional information is needed in order to fully assess your plan. The 90-day review period has been stopped by this request and will resume as soon as a substantive response to the enclosed question is received. The members of the review team will be happy to answer any questions you may have in regard to this letter and to assist your staff in formulating a response.

Please send your response, either on disk or electronically, as well as in hard copy to Edward Tregoe, project officer for Kansas's Title XXI proposed amendment. Mr. Tregoe's Internet address is: ETregoe@HCFA.GOV. His mailing address is:

Division of Integrated Health Systems
Health Care Financing Administration
Mail Stop S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

We appreciate the efforts of your staff and share your goal of providing health care to low income, uninsured children through Title XXI. If you have questions or concerns regarding the matters raised in this letter, your staff may contact Mr. Tregoe at (410) 786-6827. He will provide or arrange for any technical assistance that you may require in preparing your response.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Richard Fenton
Deputy Director

cc: Kansas Regional Office