



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 14, 2016

TO: Ms. Kimberly Xavier, DMMA
Planning & Policy Development Unit

FROM: Ms. Jamie Wolfe, Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: 20 DE Reg. 416 [DMMA Proposed Delaware Healthy Children Program Premium Regulation (12/1/16)]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the Department of Health and Social Services/Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance's (DMMA's) proposal to amend its regulations regarding the Delaware Healthy Children Program. The proposed regulation was published as 20 DE Reg. 416 in the December 1, 2016 issue of the Register of Regulations.

The Delaware Healthy Children Program represents the State's implementation of the federal SCHIP program which provides health assistance to uninsured, low income children. Delaware has included a premium requirement in its program from its inception. In 2014, DMMA proposed and ultimately adopted some changes to its premium standards. DMMA then collaborated with CMS to update the provisions in the CHIP State Plan and reconcile them with federal law during 2015-2016. DMMA is now issuing a proposed regulation to conform to the consensus reached with CMS.

SCPD did not identify any shortfalls with the proposed standards. They uniformly benefit families since they raise the thresholds which trigger the premium requirement. For example, the \$15/month premium previously applied to families with countable income at or above 143% of the Federal Poverty Level. That threshold has been raised to families with countable income at or above 177% of the Federal Poverty level.

SCPD endorsed the proposed regulation since the changes are being prompted by CMS and benefit families.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our position or observations on the proposed regulation.

cc: Mr. Stephen Groff
Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council

20reg416 dmma-delaware healthy children program premium 12-14-16