



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

June 17, 2014

Mr. Kevin Counihan
Chief Executive Officer
Access Health CT
280 Trumbull St.
Hartford, Conn. 06103

Dear Mr. Counihan,

We are writing to you to raise our concerns over possible problems regarding Access Health CT healthcare insurance accounts, based on recent constituent inquiries. According to these constituent claims, their insurance policies have been cancelled by their providers, reportedly because subsidies due to the providers have not been paid by Access Health CT.

If this is the case, we find it extremely troubling that this situation has been allowed to occur. Given that Connecticut's health exchange has been held up repeatedly as the model for how states might incorporate the Affordable Care Act, we have several questions: What is the source of the problem; how many people have been so affected; how will the issue be addressed so that coverage can be restored.

One can only imagine the stress and discomfort when a patient learns in a scheduled visit to the doctor's office that health insurance coverage has been cancelled.

Based on your own agency's reporting and news accounts, thousands of Connecticut residents had their policies cancelled in the last year and were forced into the state's exchange. Our fear is that, potentially, more Connecticut residents face further disruption in their health insurance coverage.

We look forward to obtaining the answers to our questions in a timely manner.

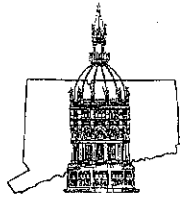
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lawrence F. Cafero Jr.

State Rep. Lawrence F. Cafero Jr.
House Republican Leader

Handwritten signature of Leonard A. Fasano.

State Sen. Leonard A. Fasano
Senate Minority Leader Pro Tempore



News:

From The Connecticut General Assembly

House Republicans
Contact Pat O'Neil
860-240-0094

Senate Republicans
Contact Nicole Rall
860-240-0092

June 17, 2014

Republicans Raise Questions Over Cancelled Health Insurance Policies

Why Are Subsidies Not Paid?

HARTFORD – Republican lawmakers today said constituents are claiming their healthcare policies have been cancelled because the state's health exchange, Access Health CT, may have failed to make subsidy payments to insurance providers.

House Republican Leader Larry Cafero and Senate Minority Leader Pro Tempore Leonard Fasano, in a letter to Access Health CT Chief Executive Officer Kevin Counihan, questioned how many have been affected, what caused this situation and how will the problems be fixed.

"Based on your own agency's reporting and news accounts, thousands of Connecticut residents had their policies cancelled in the last year and were forced into the state's exchange. Our fear is that, potentially, more Connecticut residents face further disruption in their healthcare coverage," Cafero and Fasano wrote.

They added, "One can only imagine the stress and discomfort when a patient learns in a scheduled visit to the doctor's office that health insurance has been cancelled."

Republican leaders noted that Connecticut's exchange has been held up as a model for other states to incorporate the Affordable Care Act.

"I hope that Access Health CT officials and insurance providers will work swiftly to resolve this issue," said Sen. Fasano. "Disruptions in coverage can be extremely dangerous for the individuals and families who rely on the protections and security offered by insurance through the exchange. We all want to make sure people have access to needed medical care, and the security of reliable insurance."

More than eight out of 10 people who selected plans nationally through the state exchanges between October and April of this year qualified for subsidies, according to the New York Times.

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