

MARTIN O'MALLEY
Governor

ANTHONY G. BROWN
Lt. Governor

RALPH S. TYLER
Commissioner

BETH SAMMIS
Deputy Commissioner

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December 27, 2007

The Honorable Thomas McClain Middleton
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Lowe House Office Building, Room 161
84 College Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Dear Chairman Middleton and Chairman Hammen:

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Department) and the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) are required to report to you on the implementation of the Long-Term Care Partnership Program (Program) on or before January 1, 2008. Specifically, we are required to report: (1) the measures undertaken by the MIA's Consumer Education and Advocacy Program to educate the public; and (2) the number of long-term care policies approved by the Department for inclusion in the Program.

We have made considerable progress in implementing this Program. The MIA updated the long-term care insurance regulations to make these regulations consistent with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) model act updating producer training requirements. Together, the Department and the MIA have met with interested parties to draft proposed regulations to certify certain long-term care policies for the Program. We anticipate finalizing the content of these regulations and publishing proposed regulations early in 2008. The Department is completing the State Plan Amendment that must be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to operate the Program.

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Because we are still working collaboratively to implement this Program, we have not taken any steps to educate the public and no policies have been sold.

We anticipate having more information to share with you about the Long-Term Care Partnership Program next year.

Sincerely,

Beth Sammis
Deputy Commissioner
Maryland Insurance Administration

John G. Folkemer
Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing
Maryland Department of Health and Mental
Hygiene

cc: Linda Stahr, Committee Staff, House Health & Government Operations
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