

Re: Health Reform Overview

Dear ;

The patient Protection and Affordable Care act became law on March 23, 2010, bringing wide-spread reform to the U.S. health system and some significant changes to the health insurance industry.

The health reform law is certainly a complex and large piece of legislation to fully digest and understand.

The law builds on what works in today's health care system and fixes the parts that are broken. It protects current coverage allowing individuals to keep the insurance they have if they like it and preserves choice of doctors and hospitals.

It is important to reiterate, that while reform was signed into law, the implementation of the reform components is not immediate. Aspects of reform will be phased in over time, so carriers will be making necessary benefit changes in accordance with the time lines outlined in the law. Furthermore, not every detail of the law has been fully developed by Congress, so there are some nuances of reform that have yet to be defined. Over the next 12 month, the detailed rules of the law will take place and as that happens; carriers will be in a better position to amend their policies in order to be in compliance with the key components of reform.

For your convenience I have provided a single page, Health Care Reform Bill timeline which will assist you in understanding the overall impact of this law as well as the most immediate aspects of the law.

In addition, if you are a small group employer, you may be eligible to qualify for a Small Business Health Care Tax Credit if you provide health insurance coverage to you employees. Therefore if you are a small group employer I have included a guide of 3 simple steps to determine if you qualify. For more information on this tax credit and to how to file, simply go to IRS.gov for more complete information.

I have put together (see attached) some frequently asked questions and answers that will help you understand how the new law might affect you.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions you may have. We are here if you need us!

Best Regards,

Dana J. Turner
President

DJT/lw
Enclosures