

From: David Preston
Sent time: 02/13/2014 04:20:37
To: Todd, Susan \ (DSHS\) <TODDSE@dshs.wa.gov>
Cc: Eileen Cody <Eileen.Cody@leg.wa.gov>; Marcus Riccelli <Marcus.Riccelli@leg.wa.gov>; Randi Becker <randi.becker@leg.wa.gov>; Bruce Dammeier <bruce.dammeier@leg.wa.gov>; Siobhan Mahorter <Siobhan.Mahorter@leg.wa.gov>
Annette Cleveland <annette.cleveland@leg.wa.gov>; Barbara Bailey <barbara.bailey@leg.wa.gov>; Bruce Dammeier <bruce.dammeier@leg.wa.gov>; Charles Ross <charles.ross@leg.wa.gov>; Dawn Morrell <dawn.morrell@leg.wa.gov>; Eileen Cody <Eileen.Cody@leg.wa.gov>; Graham Hunt <graham.hunt@leg.wa.gov>; Jamie Pedersen <jamie.pedersen@leg.wa.gov>; Jan Angel <jan.angel@leg.wa.gov>; Jay Rodne <jay.rodne@leg.wa.gov>; Jim Moeller <jim.moeller@leg.wa.gov>; Joe Schmick <Joe.Schmick@leg.wa.gov>; Judy Clibborn <judy.clibborn@leg.wa.gov>; Karen Keiser <karen.keiser@leg.wa.gov>; Kevin Van
BCc:

Subject: DSHS Cancelled My Obamacare ~ Part II
Attachments: DSHS_nasty-gram.pdf

Ms. Susan Todd

Constituent Program Supervisor
Community Services Division
Economic Services Administration

Dear Ms. Todd:

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly. I trust that was Ms. Cody's doing.

Yes, I got the earlier DSHS letter you describe below. **In late December 2013, approximately one week before my Apple Health benefits were scheduled to kick in**, I got a confusing notice from DSHS telling me that if I was a drug addict or out of work and if I wanted to apply for coverage to get me through the rest of the week, I could contact your office. Naturally, I did not RSVP. I then received an approval letter from Apple Health, followed in quick succession by a denial-of-benefits letter from DSHS.

Interestingly enough, the "benefits" I was supposedly being denied by DSHS included ones I had not applied for in the first place and were for a time period which I had just been told (by DSHS) that I didn't have to worry about anyway, since I would be covered by Apple Health starting in January. That is confusing to say the least.

Your statement to the effect that the denial letter I received from DSHS in early February applied "only to cash benefits" is simply false. Please look at the letter again and note that the very first line says:

*Dear Mr. Preston . . . You can't receive cash **or health care coverage** for these months . . .*

02/04/14

DAVID B PRESTON
SEATTLE WA 98106-1875



Dear DAVID B PRESTON

You can't receive cash or health care coverage for these months:

12/2013, 01/2014, 02/2014, 03/2014

Perhaps you would care to clarify the meaning of "you can't receive health coverage for these months" for me. As you do so, please explain to me how you plan to notify every Washingtonian who got this letter that your department has made a mistake and that all the Apple Health enrollees who received this bogus letter will indeed have health care coverage through March, 2014, despite what the letter says.

Are you going to send a follow-up letter to everyone? Are you planning on calling people? You will need to do something, because it's a safe bet that most Washingtonians are not as assertive as I am when it comes calling government offices and figuring out what all these scary letters really mean. Rather, most people will probably take the letter at face value ("no health care coverage" means no health care coverage) and assume that they are not covered under Obamacare after all. This in turn could cause thousands of people to defer going to a needed doctor's appointment because they're afraid they'll have to pay all charges out of pocket. That would defeat the whole purpose of Obamacare, would it not?

I look forward to your next clarification.

Regards,

David Preston

