STATE OF NEW YORK
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

October 31, 2012

Hon. Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) formally requests a five-year extension of New York's Partnership Plan Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration (Project Number 11-W-00114/2). With approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the State intends to continue the waiver beyond its current December 31, 2014 expiration date to December 31, 2017. This request is being filed pursuant to Section 1115(f) of the Social Security Act as amended by the Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (BIPA).

Section 1915(h) of the Social Security Act, as amended by section 2601 of the Affordable Care Act, allows section 1115 demonstrations to be extended up to five years at the Secretary's discretion. Therefore, we are requesting a five-year extension in order to realize the full potential of the Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) amendment. New York's Medicaid program is in the midst of one of its most groundbreaking periods of change since its inception. On August 6, 2012, DOH submitted a proposed amendment to the Partnership Plan to allow the full implementation of the MRT Action Plan and also prepare the state for federal health care reform over the five year period. The proposed amendment is consistent with the Triple Aim approach and will improve quality, improve health, and reduce per capita costs for New Yorkers.

We believe that the quality improvements and savings achieved through the Partnership Plan's care management strategies, coupled with implementation of the MRT Action Plan, will permit New York to expand health care coverage to hundreds of thousands of vulnerable and low-income New Yorkers. The requested extension will also provide the infrastructure necessary to support the critical health reform activities driven by the Affordable Care Act.

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The cooperation between CMS and New York continues to be critical to the success of the Partnership Plan. We look forward to working closely with CMS during the review of our extension request. If you have any questions regarding the enclosed material, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jason Helgerson, New York's Medicaid Director, at (518) 474-3018.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

cc: Marilyn Tavenner, Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Cynthia Mann, Director, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Jason Helgerson, Medicaid Director, New York State