Department of Health & Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 61 Forsyth St., Suite 4T20 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909



April 14, 2011

R. Bob Mullins, Jr., MD Commissioner Alabama Medicaid Agency 501 Dexter Avenue P.O. Box 5624 Montgomery, AL 36103-5624

Re: Alabama State Plan Amendment 10-015

Dear Dr. Mullins:

We have reviewed the proposed Alabama State plan amendment (SPA) 10-015, which was submitted to the Atlanta Regional Office on October 14, 2010. A Request for Additional Information (RAI) was sent to the State on December 23, 2010. The State responded to the RAI on March 3, 2011.

This SPA exempts Indians from cost sharing if they are past or present "active users" of any Indian health services provider. This cost sharing exemption complies with Section 5006 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). ARRA provides protections for Indians in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. This amendment establishes Alabama's cost sharing exemption policy for active users, which consists of the Alabama Division of Medicaid accepting an "Active User Letter" and entering a value code for the exemption into MMIS.

Based on the information provided, Alabama State plan amendment 10-015 was approved on April 12, 2011. The signed CMS-179 and the approved plan pages are enclosed. The effective date of this amendment is May 1, 2011.

If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact Crystal Francis at (404) 562-7464 or <u>Crystal.Francis@cms.hhs.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jackie Glaze Associate Regional Administrator Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations