DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services JFK Federal Building, Government Center Room 2275 Boston, Massachusetts 02203



Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations / Boston Regional Office

June 23, 2010

Michael P. Starkowski, Commissioner Department of Social Services 25 Sigourney Street Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Mr. Starkowski:

We are pleased to enclose a copy of approved Connecticut State Plan Amendment (SPA) No. 10-004. This SPA was submitted to my office on March 31, 2010 and proposed an amendment to the State's approved Title XIX State Plan to implement required provisions of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008, P.L. 110-275, commonly referred to as MIPPA. This SPA has been approved effective January 1, 2010, as requested by the State.

This approval allows your Department to make the resource limits for Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB), and Qualified Individuals (QI) conform to the resource limit for individuals who qualify for the full subsidy Medicare Part D LIS, which is three times the resource limits of the Supplemental Security Income program (SSI). In addition it allows your Department exempt Medicare cost-sharing benefits paid under the Medicare Savings Plans (MSPs) from estate recovery under section 1917(b)(1) of the Social Security Act.

Changes are reflected in the following sections of your approved State Plan;

- Attachment 2.2-A, pages 9b, 9b1 and 9b2
- Attachment 2.6-A, pages 22-23
- Section 4.17(b)(3), pages 53a and 53a-1

If you have any questions regarding this matter you may contact Julie McCarthy of my staff. She can be reached at (617) 565-1244 or by email at <u>Julie.McCarthy@cms.hhs.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/s/

Richard R. McGreal Associate Regional Administrator

cc: Mark Schaefer, Director, Medical Care Administration Patricia McCooey, Staff Attorney Dr. Robert Zavoski, Medical Director

Enclosure(s)

CMS:DMCHO:MPB:J.MCCARTHY:06-24-2010:CT 10-004 APPROVAL LTR.DOC

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