EMAIL SENT:

October 9, 2012

RE: REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MN HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE FINANCING

To MMB Commissioner James Schowalter,


Suffice to say, given the fact that no state law allows the Exchange, there should be no Exchange and no funding for the Exchange. As a reminder, no Minnesota law allowe the Exchange to be designed, developed, created, established, or operated. And constitutionally the federal law cannot commandeer the state or force it to create and operate an Exchange under Obamacare or any other law.

Thus, your Department should not be wasting time, effort, or funds to create a roster of ideas for funding an Exchange that has no authority to exist.

The legislature has said NO to the Exchange. This includes saying NO to financing it. The continued departmental and gubernatorial determination to move forward despite lack of statutory authority shows amazing disregard for state law and for the legislature as the only branch of government authorized to pass law.

The letter from the Legislative Advisory Commission on October 5 rejecting the Governor's request to spend the additional $42.5 million in federal dollars given by HHS to continue building the Exchange and to expand the Exchange staff by 54 people also gives the MMB and the Governor yet another reason to begin now to follow state law and stop all progress on creating a state-based, federally-controlled Obamacare Exchange.
In short, no user fees, no new taxes, no increased premiums, no assessments, and no other financing methods. We call on MMB to cease and desist all such Exchange activities.

Sincerely,

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