



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

January 3, 2013

The Honorable Brian Sandoval
Governor of Nevada
Executive Chambers
Capitol Complex
Carson City, NV 89710

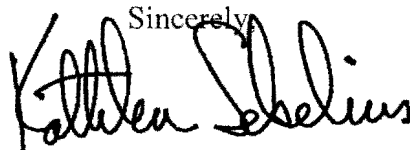
Dear Governor Sandoval:

I am pleased to inform you that Nevada has received conditional approval to establish a State-based Exchange. We commend Nevada for taking this important step towards providing affordable health insurance for consumers. Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone on the path to establishing an Exchange for the people of Nevada.

Conditional approval reflects the substantial progress the Nevada Exchange (Silver State Health Insurance Exchange) has made and an expectation that the Nevada Exchange will be ready to provide affordable, quality coverage for consumers and small businesses in 2014. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reached this decision based on the Nevada Exchange's self-assessment, progress to date, and expected progress across the entire spectrum of Exchange requirements, and is contingent upon the following conditions:

1. Demonstrate the ability to perform all required Exchange activities in line with the attestations Nevada has made in its Exchange Blueprint Application submission;
2. Comply with regulations and expected progress milestones. During the first year of the program (plan year 2014), approval of a State-based Exchange will account for timelines related to guidance and infrastructure development; and
3. Demonstrate the capacity to administer the plan management functions of the Exchange.

We recognize that Nevada is working under intense timelines and will work with you to establish benchmark dates that are appropriate and will allow us to jointly monitor Nevada's progress. CMS will continue its work with all Exchanges, including providing more detailed information directly to your State Exchange, the Nevada Exchange.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Sebelius