

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20201



June 15, 2022

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL:** [molly.voris@gov.wa.gov](mailto:molly.voris@gov.wa.gov)

Governor Jay Inslee  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

Thank you for your submission on May 13, 2022, and updated submission on June 8, 2022, of Washington's application for a State Innovation Waiver under section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Washington's application seeks to waive certain ACA requirements to allow all Washingtonians to purchase qualified health plans through the State Exchange, Washington Healthplanfinder, thereby allowing all qualifying low-income residents to benefit from new state-funded affordability programs for plan years 2024 through 2028. I am pleased to send this letter from the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) under the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), as well as on behalf of the Department of the Treasury (collectively, the Departments). The Departments have completed a preliminary review of the application in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 155.1308(c) and 31 C.F.R. § 33.108(c), and have made a preliminary determination that Washington's application is complete.

Pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 155.1308(d) and 31 C.F.R. § 33.108(d), the date of this letter marks the beginning of the Federal public notice and comment process and 180-day Federal decision-making period. Public comments on Washington's waiver application will be accepted by the Departments from June 15, 2022 through July 14, 2022, and more information about the Federal public notice and comment process and section 1332 waivers generally can be found on the CCIIO website.<sup>1</sup> The decision of the Departments regarding approval or denial of Washington's waiver application will be issued within 180 days of this preliminary determination of completeness in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 155.1316(c), 31 C.F.R. § 33.116(c), and other applicable regulations.

We look forward to working with you on your waiver application and will be in touch if we need additional information. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Programs-and-Initiatives/State-Innovation-Waivers/Section\\_1332\\_state\\_Innovation\\_Waivers-.html](https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Programs-and-Initiatives/State-Innovation-Waivers/Section_1332_state_Innovation_Waivers-.html)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ellen Montz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ellen" and the last name "Montz" clearly distinguishable.

Ellen Montz, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight  
Deputy Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Cc: Lily Batchelder, Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy, U.S. Department of the Treasury  
The Honorable Jay Inslee, Governor, State of Washington  
Molly Voris, Senior Policy Advisor for Public Health and Health Care, State of Washington  
Joan Altman, Director of Government Affairs and Strategic Partnerships for the Exchange,  
Washington Health Benefit Exchange  
Mandy Weeks-Green, Coverage and Market Strategies Manager, Washington State Health  
Care Authority