



American Hospital
Association®

800 10th Street, NW
Two CityCenter, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20001-4956
(202) 638-1100 Phone
www.aha.org

July 24, 2014

Marilyn B. Tavenner
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 445-G
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Ms. Tavenner:

On behalf of our member hospitals and health systems from Indiana, the American Hospital Association (AHA) writes to offer its support for Indiana's 1115 waiver application known as the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP 2.0). The waiver is intended to expand health care to thousands of low-income Indiana residents by using a consumer-driven insurance model.

Universal health care coverage is key to achieving the AHA's vision of healthy communities, where all individuals reach their highest potential for health. It is important, however, that in the pursuit of universal coverage, states and communities have flexibility to explore the best ways to achieve coverage expansion. The 1115 waiver allows the state to test innovations in health care coverage and delivery while ensuring broad-based stakeholder consultation. The Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) and its member hospitals support Indiana's HIP 2.0 waiver.

The AHA believes innovations such as the HIP 2.0 waiver will be important as other states explore ways to expand health care coverage to their low-income populations. As our nation's health care system is transformed into one focused on population health, we need to test models such as HIP 2.0 that encourage primary and preventive care that is provided at the right time and in the right setting. While there are many approaches to expanding health care coverage and each state's circumstances are unique, the AHA supports IHA's efforts to improve health care coverage for Indiana residents and encourages the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to approve Indiana's waiver application quickly.



Ms. Marilyn B. Tavenner

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Thank you for your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please contact, Jeff Goldman, vice president for coverage policy, at (202) 626-4639 or jgoldman@aha.org or Molly Collins Offner, director of policy development, at (202) 626-2326 or mcollins@aha.org.

Sincerely,

/s/

Rick Pollack
Executive Vice President

Cc: Cindy Mann
Deputy Administrator/Director
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS)
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services