

# STATE OF COLORADO

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

May 1, 2013

Mr. Gary Cohen  
Deputy Administrator & Director  
Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Suite 739H  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Cohen:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the Level 2 grant application being submitted by the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange. In December 2012, your office granted Colorado conditional approval of our plan to open a state-based Exchange in October 2013. We are on track to open our Exchange according to federal law and following the vision established by Senate Bill 11-200, the enabling legislation that was passed by the Colorado General Assembly in May 2011. This Exchange enabling legislation has been codified at Colo. Rev. Stat. 10-22-101, *et seq.*

Patty Fontneau is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Exchange and will be the primary point of contact with CCIIO regarding the Exchange. In her official capacity, Ms. Fontneau is authorized by the Exchange enabling legislation and the Exchange Board of Directors to complete and sign the Exchange Application and to enter into contracts between Colorado's Exchange and the federal government.

We look forward to working collaboratively with CCIIO to obtain approval for a state-based Exchange, ensuring that the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange is operational and ready for business this fall.

Sincerely,

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor