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December 10, 2012

National Healthcare Operations Healthcare and Insurance U.S. Office of Personnel Management 1900 E Street NW., Room 2347 Washington, DC 20415

Submitted Via Regulations.gov

RE: RIN 3206-AM47, Establishment of the Multi-State Plan Program for the Affordable Insurance Exchanges, Request for 30 Day Extension of Comment Period

To Whom it May Concern:

I write today to request an extension of the comment period of the regulatory action noted above. By using an extraordinarily short comment period of 30 days the Department flagrantly ignores Sec. 6(a)(1) of Executive Order 12866 which states in relevant part:

In addition, each agency should afford the public a meaningful opportunity to comment on any proposed regulation, which in most cases should include a comment period of **not less than 60 days**. (*Emphasis added*.)

OPM has cited no reason for its deviation from the mandates of Executive Order 12866 and in fact did not even acknowledge that the 60 day period specified in the order exists. While in exigent circumstances there might be reason to have a comment period of less than 60 days the Department has provided no evidence supporting a short comment period.

Furthermore, given the large number of new regulatory actions that are being undertaken by the Administration since the November elections, a longer comment period on this rulemaking will better enable members of the public and the affected

community to provide detailed comments while not sacrificing their ability to comment on all regulatory actions that affect them.

Based on the foregoing I request that the Department extend the comment period on this rulemaking for an additional 30 days.

Sincerely,

William Wilson
President

President