



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
Office of the Secretary
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November 8, 2022

To: Owen Foster, Chair, Green Mountain Care Board
Re: Execution of the First Amended and Restated Vermont All-Payer Accountable Care Organization Model Agreement

Dear Chair Foster and Members of the Green Mountain Care Board,

The Vermont All-Payer Accountable Care Organization Model Agreement (Agreement) with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI or the Innovation Center) is set to expire on December 31, 2022. The State of Vermont proposed a one-year extension of the Agreement on December 17, 2021.

The Innovation Center responded on April 12, 2022 and indicated that it would offer Vermont a one-year extension of the Agreement (CY 2023), plus an additional transitional year (CY 2024) to evolve to a subsequent multi-state model. CMMI has made clear that it will maintain the existing framework but will not address the specific changes Vermont has requested during this extension period, such as providing unreconciled prospective payments from Medicare.

Without the extension, Vermont risks returning to Medicare fee-for-service which would be disruptive to long-term health care reform work and could potentially result in the loss of critical Medicare investments in the Blueprint for Health and Support and Services at Home (SASH). For these reasons, the Agency of Human Service (AHS) and Administration intend to sign the amended and restated Agreement.

The AHS and the Administration are committed to continuing to advance health care reform through Vermont Medicaid's payment and delivery system transformation models which already include unreconciled fixed, prospective payments. The State is also invested in working with commercial payers to nurture more advanced alternative payments during the Agreement extension period.



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AHS will work to inform CMMI's design of a future payment and transformation model that supports stabilization and revitalization of Vermont's rural health care system and ensures that Vermonters can access care in the right place and at the right time to maximize health and well-being.

We look forward to continuing collaboration with the Green Mountain Care Board in this work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenney Samuelson".

Jenney Samuelson
Secretary
Agency of Human Services