

**STATE OF VERMONT  
GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD**

In re: 2016 ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS    )  
      BENCHMARK PLAN FOR                    )  
      FOR VERMONT BENEFITS EXCHANGE) )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

**ORDER APPROVING ESSENTIAL  
HEALTH BENEFITS BENCHMARK PLAN**

1. Discussion

Vermont selects an essential health benefits “benchmark” plan, the plan that serves as the reference point for all other plans issued on the Vermont Health Benefits Exchange. See 45 CFR §156.100. To implement this standard, the Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) selects and recommends a proposed benchmark plan for the final approval of the Green Mountain Care Board (the “Board”). 18 V.S.A. § 9375(b)(9). The Board first approved a benchmark plan for qualified health benefit plans on September 20, 2012. At that time, the Board approved the plan recommended by the Commissioner of DVHA.

By letter of June 3, 2015, Commissioner Steven M. Costantino of DVHA recommended a benchmark benefit package of essential health benefits to the Board for the plans to be offered on the Vermont Health Benefits Exchange for 2016. See Attachment A, Letter of Commissioner Costantino. The Commissioner of DVHA recommended that the Board approve the selection of The Vermont Health Plan LLC CDHP-HMO to serve as the benchmark plan. This is the same plan that the Commissioner of DVHA recommended to the Board and that the Board approved in 2012.

On June 25, 2015, the Board reviewed the recommendation of the Commissioner during a public meeting in Montpelier. The Board confirmed that a broad array of stakeholders had advised and contributed to DVHA’s selection of a recommended plan.

2. Decision

The Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended plan; Board member Allan Ramsay was absent from the vote.

The Board hereby issues this **ORDER** approving the recommendation of the Commissioner of DVHA and thereby accepting The Vermont Health Plan LLC CDHP-HMO to serve as the essential health benefits benchmark plan for the State of Vermont on the Vermont Health Benefits Exchange for the year 2016.

**SO ORDERED.**

Dated: July 16, 2015 at Montpelier, Vermont

s/ Alfred Gobeille )

s/ Con Hogan )

s/ Jessica Holmes )

s/ Betty Rambur )

GREEN MOUNTAIN  
CARE BOARD  
OF VERMONT

Note: Board member Allan Ramsay did not participate in the vote.