



Illinois Public Health Institute works through partnerships to promote prevention and improve public health systems that maximize health and quality of life for the people of Illinois.

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

American Cancer Society,
Illinois Division
American Red Cross of Greater Chicago
Arthritis Foundation, Greater Chicago
Chapter
Asian Health Coalition of Illinois
Benedictine University
Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois
Chicago Partnership for Public Health
The Honorable Elizabeth Coulson,
MBA, P.T., State Representative
Decatur Community/Macon County
Partnership
Health & Medicine Policy Research
Group
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs
and Human Rights
Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
Illinois African American Coalition
for Prevention
Illinois Association of Public Health
Administrators
Illinois Department of Health Care
and Family Services
Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Department of Public Health
IDPH Minority Health Advisory Council
Illinois Hospital Association
Illinois Nurses Association
Illinois Primary Health Care Association
Illinois Public Health Association
Illinois Rural Health Association
Illinois State Board of Health
Illinois State Medical Society
Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
Institute of Medicine, Chicago
Latino Coalition for Prevention
Midwest Business Group on Health
St. Clair County Partnership
University of Illinois/Chicago School of
Public Health

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June 10, 2010

Mr. Lou Felice
Chair, Health Care Reform Solvency Impact Subgroup

Steven Ostlund
Chair, Accident & Health Working Group

National Association of Insurance Commissioners
2301 McGee Street, Suite 800
Kansas City, Missouri 64108-2662

Dear Mr. Felice, Mr. Ostlund, and Subgroup members:

The Illinois Public Health Institute (IPHI) works through partnerships to promote prevention and improve public health systems that maximize health and quality of life for the people of Illinois. Our mission is to promote the full engagement of the broader public health system – health care providers, employers, community groups, health insurance companies and the public sector – in promoting and participating in population-level health improvement. Prevention is a more cost effective approach to improving health than is treating people who become sick and population health improvement is key to the long-term affordability of health care reform.

IPHI has worked for many years with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois as a partner and funder of our health improvement programs, including the development of a state health improvement plan and our coalition initiative to fight obesity in Illinois, the Illinois Alliance to Prevent Obesity.

As you advise the Secretary of HHS on issues related to the implementation of health care reform, I urge the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) to keep in mind the important role insurance companies can and do play as a partner and funder in the public health system's efforts to promote a healthy population. Please identify ways in which health care reform implementation can foster and encourage such investments by health insurers.

Thank you for consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elissa J. Bassler".

Elissa J. Bassler
CEO