



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
208 Hurricane Lane, Suite 103
Williston, VT 05495

Global Commitment Register

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FINAL

Section 1332 ACA Waiver Request

The State of Vermont, Agency of Human Services (AHS), Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) submitted an application for a State Innovation Waiver under section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on March 15, 2016. Section 1332 allows a state to apply for the waiver of certain ACA requirements with respect to health insurance coverage for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2017.

DVHA is requesting a waiver of the ACA requirement that the State build an Internet portal for employers to enroll in health insurance coverage. The waiver would maintain the status quo by allowing Vermont businesses to enroll in qualified health plans directly through a health insurance issuer instead of through an Internet portal.

DVHA's proposal addresses the section 1332 standards as follows:

- Equivalent or greater scope of coverage: Vermont's proposal will maintain seamless coverage for all small employers currently covered while allowing streamlined access for large employers in 2018.
- Equivalent or greater affordability of coverage: Vermont's proposal will provide coverage that is as affordable as current plans by requiring enrollment in QHPs subject to rigorous rate review oversight.
- Equivalent comprehensiveness of coverage: Vermont's proposal will maintain coverage with the same essential health benefits as provided today.
- Deficit neutral: Vermont's proposal will not increase the federal deficit because it will maintain its current enrollment system and funding mechanism.

DVHA's submitted waiver application can be found at: <http://dvha.vermont.gov/global-commitment-to-health/vermont-1332-waiver-for-state-innovation-application.pdf>

It can also be requested from local Department for Children and Families (DCF) District Offices or by calling (802) 585-4265.

Public comment on this proposal. Public Hearings were held on Monday, 2/22/2016, from 3-4pm following the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Board Meeting and on Thursday, 2/25/2016 from 3-4pm at the Department of Vermont Health Access in Waterbury. Written comments were accepted through 3/11/2016. Comments with responses can be viewed at:

<http://dvha.vermont.gov/global-commitment-to-health/1332shopwaiver-commentsreceived.pdf>