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October 25, 2012

William W. Deal Director Idaho Department of Insurance 700 West State Street 3rd Floor Boise, ID 83720

Senator John Goedde
Representative John Rusche
Representative Lynn Luker
Zelda Geyer-Sylvia, Blue Cross of Idaho
Scott Kreiling, Regence Blue Shield of Idaho
Dave Self, Pacific Source Health Plans
Tom Shores, Idaho Association of Health Underwriters
Kevin Settles, Bardenay Restaurants & Distilleries
Dr. John Livingston, Treasure Valley Hospital
Alex LeBeau, Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry
Wayne Hoffman, Idaho Freedom Foundation
John Watts, Idaho Chamber Alliance

Dear Director Deal and members of the Health Insurance Exchange Working Group,

With the approaching deadline presented by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Idaho Health Exchange Alliance, a growing number of Idaho businesses and individuals, sees an important opportunity for Idaho to take control of its health insurance destiny.

We, the members of the Idaho Health Exchange Alliance, see a state-based health insurance exchange Idaho's best opportunity to control costs, maintain Idaho jobs and keep the control of this important function in the hands of Idahoans, who are best positioned to help administer such an exchange.

The Idaho Health Exchange Alliance is grateful for growing support. Our coalition includes businesses and individuals, health care providers and insurance brokers as well

as industrial leaders and community pillars. Our members encourage you to support the creation of a state-based health insurance exchange. Such a strategy is far superior to ceding design and control of something as important as health insurance to the federal government.

The Alliance now boasts 308 members. Since our group launched formally on October 16, 179 new members have signed on demonstrating support for a state based exchange. We are united because we believe a state-based health insurance exchange will offer Idaho more job security, better control over health insurance costs and local control over decisions made on Idaho's behalf.

We appreciate the Governor's commitment to a thorough and deliberate process and the months of exploration and hours of discussion you have put into this important decision. Idaho is well served by your commitment.

As you approach your final decision about a state health insurance exchange, we, the members of the Idaho Health Exchange Alliance ask for your support of a state solution.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We appreciate your efforts.

Sincerely,

Members of the Idaho Health Exchange Alliance

Business Members:

ABLE Health and Life Insurance

Ada County Medical Society

Aim Insurance Solutions LLC

Allegis Benefits Group

American Cancer Society Cancer Action

Network

American Heart Association

American Insurance Service

Anderson Health Services Inc.

Apex Insurance Benefits LLC

Archibald Insurance Center

Association Management Group

Ataraxis

Ballard Insurance Group

Bell Black Insurance

Blaisdell Dental Center

Blue Cross of Idaho

Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce

Bowen Group

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Burkhardt Consulting, LLC

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Cameron & Seamons, Inc.

Capital Financial Solutions, LLC

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Christensen & Associates Insurance

Clear Springs Foods, Inc.

Community Care Pocatello, PLLC

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Coonse Well Drilling & Pump Co., Inc.

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East Idaho Insurance

Excalibur Auto Body Repair Inc.

EZR Insurance

Family Solutions Network, Inc.

Fidelity Associates

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Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry

Idaho Association of Health Plans

Idaho Association of Health Underwriters

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Idaho Falls Chiropractic Clinic, PLCC

Idaho Forest Group

Idaho Hospital Association

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Jeff Wheeler Insurance

JK & BK Insurance

Kruse Insurance, Inc.

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Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District

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Madison Roofing

Magic Valley Insurance, Inc.

Majestic Auto Body and Glass

Marsh & Associates

Marsh Health Solutions

Maughan Enterprises, Inc.

Mercer

Michael's Automotive Services Inc.

Midtowne Insurance Agency

Moreton & Company

M.S. Administrative Services, Inc.

Myriad Benefits, LLC

NAIFA-Idaho

Nampa Smiles

Naylor Insurance Inc.

Neighbors Insurance

Northwest Food Processors Association

Offices Group Benefit, LLC

Oldwave, Inc.

Oppenheimer Companies Inc.

Orton Insurance

Pacific Crest Insurance, Coeur d'Alene

Pacific Source Health Plans

Personal Touch Insurance & Benefits, LLC

Premier Insurance

Regence Blue Shield of Idaho

Rock Creek Canyon Ranch, Inc.

Saint Alphonsus Health System

Schiffler & Fiala Insurance

Scott Leavitt Insurance & Financial Services

Security Insurance Services

Semons Financial Group

Sharp Insurance LLC

Shores Insurance

Stacy Rindlisbaker Insurance Agency Inc.

Steve Smith Insurance

Strategic Employee Benefit Services

Suitter Insurance Co

Sundstrom Insurance Services, Inc.

Tamara Dance Insurance

The Caxton Printers Ltd.

The Falls Insurance Center

The Hartwell Corporation

The Insurance Group Inc.

Three Rivers Insurance

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Treasure Valley Health Insurance

Troy Insurance Agency, Inc.

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Twin Peaks Ranch Inc.

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Waldo Agencies, Inc.

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Western Benefit Solutions

Wrangler Insurance

Individual Members:

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Travis Argyle, Idaho Falls

Chris Axenty, Blackfoot

Rudey Ballard, Rexburg

Kathy Barnes, Caldwell

Rhonda Bartholomew, Jerome

Todd Bateman, Chubbuck

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David S. Bell, Rexburg

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Pat Wilde, Eagle

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For more information you can contact Heidi Low, Executive Director of the Idaho Health Exchange Alliance at Heidi@ritterpublicrelations.com or 433-9610.

CC:

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