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Congress of the United States  
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June 7, 2012

Marilyn Tavenner, Administrator  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

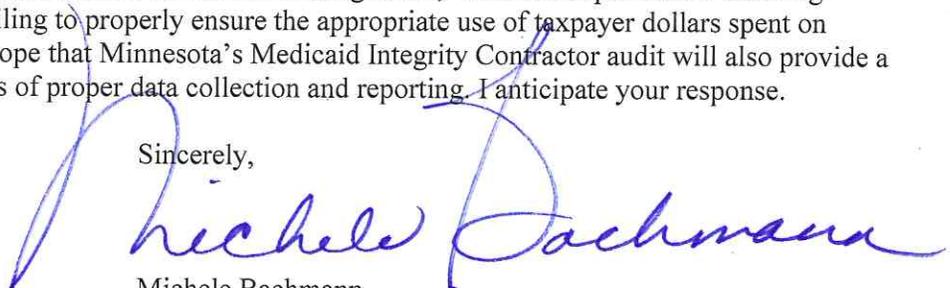
Dear Administrator Tavenner:

On April 25, 2012, two subcommittees of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee held a joint hearing titled, "Is Government Adequately Protecting Taxpayers From Medicaid Fraud?" Based on the conflicting testimony of Minnesota Health Commissioner Lucinda Jesson to earlier statements, the General Accounting Office assessment of CMS' lack of oversight, and allegations of cross-subsidizing of non-qualified state plans with Medicaid dollars, I am calling for an immediate, independent Medicaid Integrity Contractor audit, consistent with Federal Government Auditing Standards, of Minnesota's managed care Medicaid program.

The Medicaid Integrity Program was created under Section 1936 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act expanded the Recovery Audit Contractor Program to include Medicaid in an attempt to better identify and recover improper and fraudulent payments. Therefore, I am confident that CMS has the infrastructure and the funding to immediately facilitate this audit.

The staff report from the aforementioned committee hearing states, "Minnesota provides a stunning example of how states are failing to properly ensure the appropriate use of taxpayer dollars spent on Medicaid managed care." I hope that Minnesota's Medicaid Integrity Contractor audit will also provide a stellar example to other states of proper data collection and reporting. I anticipate your response.

Sincerely,



Michele Bachmann  
Member of Congress