



Comments to the Board – External

Table of Contents

May 18, 2017 Board Meeting

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Correspondence with Elected Officials

- None

Correspondence with Stakeholders

- Carla Woodworth

General Comment Received via E-mail

Comment for upcoming Covered California Board of Directors May meeting packet:
Suggestion for Covered California

Dear Covered California Board of Directors,

I have been a strong supporter of the Affordable Care Act. In recent months I have attended several town hall meetings hosted by local congressional representatives to speak out against the repeal of the ACA. But I have noticed that there is some public confusion about what the Affordable Care Act is. In that spirit I would like to suggest that Covered California be more explicit that the California program is part of the Affordable Care Act by requiring contracting insurers to state that individuals are receiving Affordable Care Act benefits in their bills.

As an example, my monthly Kaiser bill for my Covered California coverage just states: KP-Silver 70 HMO Single (18+) with a column for the premium and then a column for the APTC*-- Advanced Premium Tax Credit. Instead of "APTC", which I think we can all agree is fairly vague bureaucratic language, I think the bill should clearly state that the subsidy is part of the Affordable Care Act.

Continuing public education is important to build on-going support for this crucial program. Instead of acquiescing to the repeal of the ACA or cutting back of subsidies, we should all be working together for more government support of subsidies for individuals, families and small businesses. But first let's make sure that current beneficiaries realize they are getting ACA benefits!

Thank you for your efforts to bring health care to all Californians.

Sincerely,

Carla Woodworth
Berkeley, CA