



STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

March 25, 2020

Alex M. Azar II,
Secretary of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Azar,

I am writing to you today to strongly encourage you to open a special enrollment period on the Federal Insurance Marketplace which Arizona, like 31 other states, utilizes in place of running a state based exchange. As you are aware, at least 11 states that operate a state based marketplace have opened special enrollment periods, and we would ask that the Federal Insurance Marketplace do the same.

Opening a special enrollment period on the Federal Insurance Marketplace will allow individuals who have lost their employment or have seen their income dramatically reduced as the economic fallout of the Coronavirus outbreak unfolds to have the ability to purchase health insurance. Such a move would provide an important option to families in Arizona and across the country who are struggling right now.

While individuals who have lost their employment are permitted to purchase a health insurance plan during a short time period after loss of employment, a substantial paperwork burden is placed on the individual to qualify. At this time when health insurance is of critical importance and so many people are experiencing a loss of employment, opening a special enrollment period will cut unnecessary red tape and lift a paperwork burden off individuals who are already facing challenges from a sudden and significant change in circumstances.

To ensure individuals have access to health insurance options at this critical time, we strongly encourage you to open a special enrollment period on the Federal Insurance Marketplace. Should you have any questions, please reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas A. Ducey".

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona