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TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

THOMAS M. SUEHS
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

July 23, 2012

The Honorable Keith Self
County Judge
Collin County
2300 Bloomdale Road, Suite 4192
McKinney, Texas 75071

Dear Judge Self:

Thank you for your letter dated July 3, 2012, regarding the draft proposed program rules related to Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC's) implementation of the Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program 1115 Waiver (transformation waiver). I appreciate your input on the draft rules.

As the anchor of regional healthcare partnership (RHP) 18, you commented on the draft text in Texas Administrative Code, Section 354.1612(d)(1), which states an anchor must not "request reimbursement from a participant for the performance of the anchor's responsibilities." You recommended this language be changed to read that an anchor must not "request reimbursement from a participant for the performance of the anchor's responsibilities, unless the anchor and other governmental entities within the RHP agree to share such costs on a basis they find to be mutually agreeable."

HHSC has not published the draft rules as proposed and, prior to doing so, we will consider all comments received to make appropriate modifications. The language you suggested seems like a reasonable approach to make sure anchors do not require RHP participants to support their administrative costs while still enabling other governmental entities in the RHP to support such costs if they agree to.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Lisa Kirsch, Medicaid and CHIP Division Deputy Director for Healthcare Transformation Waiver Operations and Cost Containment, serves as lead on this matter and can be reached at (512) 491-1482 or at Lisa.Kirsch@hhsc.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. Suehs", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas M. Suehs

cc: Bill Bilyeu, County Administrator
Greg Hudson, Hudson & O'Leary LLP