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October 14, 2013

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

As you know, I have serious concerns with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), including its Federally Facilitated Marketplace Exchanges (Exchanges). The Exchanges were supposed to be fully operational on October 1, but this system that cost more than \$400 million, took three years to build, and was billed as a one-stop shop for individuals seeking health insurance is not working as advertised.

In its first two weeks of operation, I am told that no one was able to enroll in the Alaska Exchange. This has led an official with Enroll Alaska to suggest the Alaska Exchange be shut down because it is not ready.

Problems with the Exchanges should have been foreseen since at least June, when the Government Accountability Office released a report stating that the health insurance and Small Business Health Option Program Exchanges would not be ready. However, no relief is being offered to individuals who are being forced to purchase insurance under the ACA or pay a new tax penalty to the federal government.

To better understand the full extent of the problems with the Alaska Exchange, I respectfully request weekly updates from your Department on the number of Alaskans who attempt to enroll in the Alaska Exchange and the number of Alaskans who are successful in doing so. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator