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To (Recipient):

Sebelius, Kathleen; Jewell, Sally

From (Author):

Bordallo, Madelaine Z.; Faleomavaega, Eni; Christensen, Donna; Sablan, Gregorio

U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Natural Resources

Washington, DC 20515

Subject Text:

Requests a meeting of the Interagency Group of Insular Affairs (IGIA) to discuss Affordable Care

Act implementation concerns

Req. Surnames:

OCL;SIO-Scheduling;SOL

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SIO-OES

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09/27/2013 12:23:40 PM - Daniel Vaught : Please coordinate with SIO-Scheduling and HHS

for response.

Correspondence Specialist and Phone:

SIO-OES-Daniel Vaught/202-208-6540

Closed

Comments:

Signed:

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 17, 2013

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

The Honorable Sally Jewell Secretary of the Interior Department of the Interior 1849 C Street NW Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Sebelius and Secretary Jewell,

We write to request for a meeting of the Interagency Group of Insular Affairs (IGIA) to be convened for territorial government officials and appropriate federal entities to discuss concerns irn about the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in the U.S. Territories.

As you know, many of the provision of the ACA are either not applicable or treat the territories differently than the rest of the nation. We are concerned about the effect of these differences on the health insurance markets in the territories, as are our local governments, health insurance providers, employers, and the public at large.

We appreciate the guidance that was issued to our governors by the Department of Health and Human Services on December 10, 2012 that outlined the application of certain portions of the ACA in each of the territories. This provided our local governments and health insurance companies with initial information on how the ACA will apply, but questions remain about the Act's ultimate effects.

For that reason, we believe that the direct dialogue provided by a meeting of the IGIA is needed at which territorial governments could convey their developing concerns and questions. This exchange could then enable both local and federal governments to make decisions that would most effectively advance the goals of health care reform.

We appreciate the leadership that your departments have already shown in addressing the many health care challenges in the territories. We hope that you will continue to work with each of the territorial governments to ensure that ACA implementation addresses our unique needs. We look forward to working with you to ensure the greatest possible benefit from the ACA for the people we represent.

Sincerely,

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

Member of Congress

DÓNNA M. CHRISTENSEN

Member of Congress

F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

Member of Congress

GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

Member of Congress



Howarth, Robert <robert howarth@ios.dol.gov>

Fwd: ACA Implementation in the Territories

1 message

Bogard, Lauren
lauren_bogard@ios.doi.gov

Thu, Sep 26, 2013 at 6:22 PM

To: Robert Howarth < Robert_Howarth@ios.doi.gov>, Sarah Neimeyer < sarah_neimeyer@ios.doi.gov>, Joshua Mahan < joshua_mahan@ios.doi.gov>

FYI - Please see the attached request for a meeting with the Interagency Group on Insular Affairs. Is there someone else I should send this to as well?

Thanks,

Lauren Bogard
Special Assistant
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: (202) 208-5954

——— Forwarded message ————

From: Carbullido, Adam <Adam.Carbullido@mail.house.gov>

Date: Wed, Sep 25, 2013 at 3:56 PM

Subject: ACA Implementation in the Territories

To: "Mason, James (HHS/IEA)" <james.mason@hhs.gov>, "Lewandowski, David S. (CMS/OL)" <David.Lewandowski@cms.hhs.gov>, "Lauren_Bogard@ios.doi.gov" <Lauren_Bogard@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: "Herrmann, Matthew" < matthew.herrmann@mail.house.gov>, "Zepeda, Rebecca"

<rebecca zepeda@ios.doi.gov>

Hi Jim, Dave, and Lauren,

Please find attached a letter from Congresswoman Bordallo, Congresswoman Christensen, Congressman Faleomavaega, and Congressman Sablan requesting a meeting of the Interagency Group on Insular Affairs (IGIA) to discuss the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in the territories. Despite the guidance that was issued in December 2012 and July 2013 from Secretary Sebelius and Director Cohen, our local governments continue to have questions about how the territories can implement the ACA. We believe that this meeting would be helpful for territorial government officials to ask questions directly to the appropriate federal agencies.

Thank you for your help in facilitating this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very respectfully,