August 10, 2010

Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight
Department of Health and Human Services
Attention: OCIIO–9991–IFC
P.O. Box 8016
Baltimore, MD 21244–1850

Re: Interim Final Rule for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Coverage Relating to Status as a Grandfathered Health Plan Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Below are my comments regarding the Interim Final Rule for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Coverage Relating to Status as a Grandfathered Health Plan Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

There should be NO Grandfathered Plans…Period. The Provider Non-discrimination language in the new Health Care Bill was designed to give patients real choices in the health care marketplace. Insurance companies for years have manipulated that choice through the manipulation of copay amounts for different provider groups, global office visit fees and included vs. non-included services, and simply not paying for a particular licensed provider group, such as Acupuncturists or Chiropractors, to treat a patient for a condition within that provider group’s scope of practice while at the same time paying MD’s, DO’s, etc. to treat that same patient.

The Provider Non-discrimination regulation needs to be written to ensure patients have the right to choose who treats them without arbitrary and manipulative restraints placed on those patients.

Respectfully,

Leslie W. Lange, DC