

**STATEMENT OF THE VIRGINIA BUREAU OF INSURANCE REGARDING  
FURTHER EXTENSION OF INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL GROUP HEALTH  
INSURANCE PLANS**

On March 5, 2014, the Obama Administration proposed a further suspension of the enforcement of certain provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) and urged state insurance regulators to allow health insurance carriers to offer renewal of certain non-ACA compliant health insurance plans such that they could remain in effect into 2017.

Following this announcement, the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) has undertaken a legal and regulatory analysis of the extension proposal.

Virginia state insurance laws were changed to conform to various provisions of the ACA effective January 1, 2014. Therefore, in the absence of specific authorization by the General Assembly, insurance carriers remain subject to conforming Virginia law.

The Bureau previously encouraged carriers to offer policyholders the opportunity to "early renew" their existing insurance plans before January 1, 2014, when the new Virginia provisions became effective. This allowed policyholders to continue existing coverage into 2014.

Policyholders with non-ACA compliant policies expiring in 2014 are advised to evaluate all available options for health insurance coverage in 2014 to replace their coverage that may be expiring due to implementation of the ACA and conforming Virginia law.