

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

(617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ESTABLISHING THE HEALTHY MASSACHUSETTS COMPACT

BETWEEN AND AMONG

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

- THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH INSURANCE CONNECTOR AUTHORITY

THE GROUP INSURANCE COMMISSION
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE DIVISION OF INSURANCE
OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AGENCY

AND

THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WHEREAS, through the enactment and implementation of Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2006, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has made great progress in enrolling Massachusetts residents in health insurance and reducing the numbers of the uninsured, while ensuring that insurance coverage remains comprehensive; and

WHEREAS, access to health care services and the attainment and maintenance of health and wellness are matters of utmost importance to the Commonwealth's residents and its economy; and



WHEREAS, health care costs must be contained in order to continue to offer comprehensive health insurance coverage, to ensure access to care for all Massachusetts residents, and to preserve limited state resources for other vital programs and services; and

WHEREAS, advancing the quality of health care services in the Commonwealth is essential to promoting safe, effective, person-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable care; and

WHEREAS, promoting individual health and wellness throughout the lifespan and for diverse populations, preventing chronic diseases, and promoting healthy communities are essential to ensuring that children are ready to learn, to maintaining a healthy workforce, to fostering continuing economic growth, and to ensuring the quality of life for diverse populations in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, building on the success of health reform as enacted in Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2006 is essential for a Healthy Massachusetts,

This Memorandum of Understanding Establishing the Healthy Massachusetts Compact is made by and among the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and each of its constituent agencies, departments, commissions, divisions, and other entities, as listed in M.G.L. c. 6A, §16; the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and each of its constituent divisions, agencies, departments, commissions, and other entities, as listed in M.G.L. c.7, §§4A and 4G; the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority; the Group Insurance Commission; the Division of Insurance within the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development; the Massachusetts Health and Educational Facilities Authority; the Attorney General; Massachusetts Development Finance Agency; and the Department of Correction within the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

The Healthy Massachusetts Compact builds on five (5) key elements to achieve its goals, as appropriate within each agency's mission and authority:

- ensuring access to care;
- advancing health care quality;
- containing health care costs;
- promoting individual wellness; and
- promoting healthy communities.

The parties to this Memorandum of Understanding Establishing the Healthy Massachusetts Compact commit to contributing to and working towards the accomplishment of the following efforts, subject to their respective missions and authority, to achieve the goals of the Healthy Massachusetts Compact:

- a) Coordinating purchasing and contracting strategies across programs, including, but not limited to, shared pay for performance incentives and quality standards;
- b) Reducing administrative costs by encouraging the use of technology, including electronic medical records, and employing shared processes wherever possible;
- c) Seeking the highest quality health care standards, as defined by nationally accepted and recognized measures of quality;

- d) Promoting transparency in the delivery of and payment for health care services, as well as outcomes achieved;
- e) Using payment systems to encourage care in the most cost-efficient and effective settings, promoting wellness, the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases, including chronic mental disorders, and appropriate care for disabling conditions within primary care;
- f) Ensuring that investments in the expansion of health care services, new technologies, new facilities and new treatments appropriately meet the current and projected needs of communities;
- g) Partnering with businesses, schools and others to promote wellness and chronic disease prevention;
- h) Partnering with cities and towns to reduce their health care costs;
- i) Supporting and collaborating with communities in their efforts to promote healthy environments and individual wellness;
- j) Eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities through health care quality improvement, systems reform, community interventions and collaboration with communities;
- k) Supporting the goals of the Health Care Quality and Cost Council; and
- l) Educating the public to allow people seeking health care to make informed decisions about ways to maintain health and wellness and about how to use the health care system.

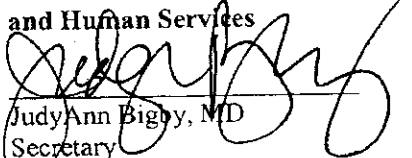
The Healthy Massachusetts Compact shall be coordinated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall conduct regular meetings of the chief executives of each of the parties to the Compact or their designee, all of whom pledge to work together to realize the goals of the Compact. Not less than every six months, the parties to the Compact shall prepare and make available to the public a report summarizing their work since the last such submission.

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective as of December 20, 2007 and shall remain in effect as to each signatory of the Compact until January 11, 2011, when it shall be reviewed by the respective parties for renewal. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding creates any obligations of the parties that are inconsistent with or contrary to their statutory authority. Nor does anything in this Memorandum of Understanding create any benefit or right for any third party.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the following officials have caused their duly authorized representatives to execute this Memorandum of Understanding on December 20, 2007, as follows:

Signatories:

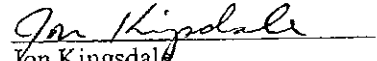
**The Executive Office of Health
and Human Services**


Judy Ann Bigby, MD
Secretary

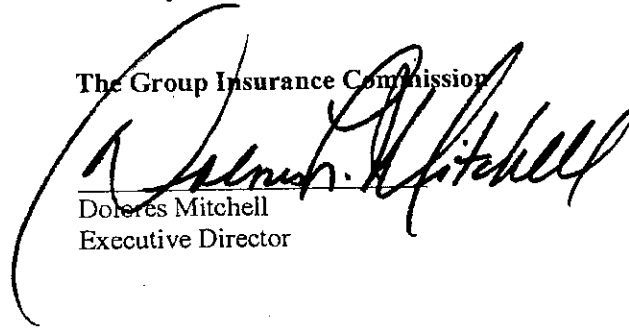
**The Executive Office for
Administration and Finance**


Leslie A. Kirwan
Secretary

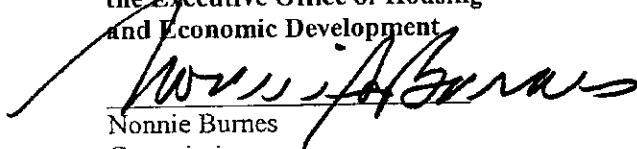
**The Commonwealth Health
Insurance Connector Authority**


Jon Kingsdale
Executive Director


The Group Insurance Commission


Dolores Mitchell
Executive Director

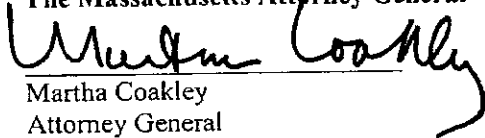
**The Division of Insurance within
the Executive Office of Housing
and Economic Development**


Nonnie Burnes
Commissioner

**The Massachusetts Health and
Educational Facilities Authority**


Benson Caswell
Executive Director


The Massachusetts Attorney General


Martha Coakley
Attorney General

Massachusetts Development Finance Agency


Robert Culver
President and CEO

**The Department of Correction within
the Executive Office of Public Safety
and Security**


Harold W. Clarke
Commissioner