

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 24, 2014

The Honorable Scott Walker
Governor of Wisconsin
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker:

I write concerning the thousands of Wisconsinites who lost their BadgerCare coverage under your plan and who now have another opportunity to enroll in 2014 coverage in the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) federal Marketplace. On September 4th, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services initiated a 60 day special enrollment period for former BadgerCare recipients who you have not yet transitioned to Marketplace coverage. According to your Administration, nearly 27,000 Wisconsinites may be eligible to enroll during this period; however it is my understanding that you have not yet made an effort to let these individuals know that they have another chance to enroll in a health insurance plan offered on the federal Marketplace.

Updated information released by your Administration shows that almost 27,000 Wisconsinites of the 63,000 your plan removed from BadgerCare have not yet obtained health coverage and are likely uninsured. Local providers and enrollment assistors stand ready to help individuals enroll, but only the state has the capacity and information needed to reach these Wisconsinites directly. Furthermore, these residents are some of the most vulnerable among us and we should all be doing what we can to ensure that as many of these people as possible sign up to receive health insurance. Therefore, I urge you to keep your promise to guarantee that these individuals transition to the Marketplace by immediately contacting these residents directly and sharing information with providers to help them conduct targeted outreach to this population.

The special enrollment period for former BadgerCare beneficiaries to enroll in Marketplace coverage for 2014 will close on November 2nd, which is fast approaching. I continue to believe that the consequences of your plan, which costs taxpayers more and has created newly uninsured families, are unacceptable. But, I remain committed to guaranteeing that all Wisconsin families receive the health coverage that they need and deserve, and am ready to work together. I ask you to seize this second chance to deliver on your promise and immediately work to transition former BadgerCare enrollees to coverage in the ACA Marketplace during this special enrollment period.

Thank you for your timely attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator