COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation
DIVISION OF INSURANCE

One South Station • Boston, MA 02110-2208
(617) 521-7777 • FAX (617) 521-7475
Springfield Office (413) 785-5526
TTY/TDD (617) 521-7490
http://www.state.ma.us/doi

MITT ROMNEY
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

BETH LINDSTROM
DIRECTOR, CONSUMER AFFAIRS
AND BUSINESS REGULATION

JULIANNE M. BOWLER
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

2004-01 Provisions of M.G.L. c. 176D to Include HMOs Pursuant to Sections 33 and 83 of Chapter 141 of the Acts of 2003

TO: **Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)**

FROM: **Julianne M. Bowler, Commissioner of Insurance** Julianne M Bowler

DATE: **January 30, 2004**

RE: **Notice of Statutory Amendment - M.G.L. c. 176D Includes Health Maintenance Organizations**

The purpose of this Bulletin is to inform Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) of the recently enacted sections 33 and 83 of St. 2003, c. 141 (Chapter 141). Chapter 141 now includes HMOs within the term "person" under M.G.L. c. 176D, § 1. Accordingly, Chapter 141 clarifies that HMOs are subject to all of the provisions of M.G.L. c. 176D, in addition to §§ 3(4), 3A and 3B. Chapter 141 became effective on **January 1, 2004** and companies are reminded that they are expected to understand and to comply with the statute.

The unofficial version of the text of Chapter 141 can be viewed on the state Internet website at http://www.state.ma.us/legis/laws/seslaw03/sl030141.htm

If you should have any questions regarding this bulletin or in determining how your company can comply with Massachusetts law, please contact Abigail Morgan at the Office of the General Counsel at 617-521-7309.