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**Annual Public Hearing to Monitor the Overall Condition of
the Massachusetts Market for Medicare Supplement Insurance**
Docket No. G2019-03

Summary of Proceeding and Closing of the Record

Section 7(j) of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 176K ("Chapter 176K") directs the Commissioner of Insurance to hold an annual public hearing concerning the market for Medicare Supplement insurance. The hearing, held pursuant to that statute and 211 CMR 71.23(1), is intended to monitor the overall condition of the market for Medicare Supplement insurance products in Massachusetts so as to improve access to coverage, to encourage aggregation of risk pools through product selection, and to promote long-term access by individuals to coverage through continued stability and financial viability of all carriers in the market.

By Notice dated September 11, 2019, and published in the Boston Globe on September 14, a public hearing was scheduled for October 15, 2019 to enable interested persons to provide oral and written comments relating to this matter. The Notice requested that any person who wished to comment at the public hearing submit a Notice of Intent to Comment no later than October 10, 2019. No notices of intent to comment or written comments were received on or before that date.

Two individuals attended the October 15 hearing. After reminding the audience of the purpose of the annual hearing, I asked if any person desired to make an oral statement or to submit a written statement regarding this matter. Michael Katzman made a brief statement on behalf of BlueCrossBlueShield of Massachusetts. He noted that changes in federal law will affect Medicare Supplement plans in 2020, and that BlueCrossBlueShield now offers

Massachusetts consumers an additional Medicare Supplement plan. No other person asked to speak or submitted a written statement.

The record was held open until October 22, 2019 to provide further opportunity to submit written comments to the Docket Clerk. No comments were submitted and the record was closed on October 23, 2018.

Filed: October 30, 2019

Jean F. Farrington, Esq.
Counsel to the Commissioner and
Presiding Officer