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NOV 30 2011

TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Jane C. Orie 
DATE: November 28, 2011
SUBJECT: Health Insurance: Any Willing Provider

In the near future, I will be introducing legislation to ensure that private practitioners and facilities remain “in network” if they are qualified and willing to accept the payment rates of the health insurer. Under my legislation, health insurers could not refuse to accept as a participating provider any provider in its geographic area who is willing to meet its conditions of participation.

This legislation would help address situations that individuals are facing in the dispute between Highmark and UPMC. Concerns have been expressed that if a new contract is not renewed patients will not be able to continue to see their current doctors without paying out-of-network fees. Thirty-three other states currently have a type of “Any Willing Provider” law.

Please join me in cosponsoring this legislation by contacting Monica Armstrong at 787-6538 or by email at marmstrong@pasen.gov

JCO/ns