



Binghamton PEF Division 399
OTDA – DDD

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Leader – Kathy D’Arminio 607-741-4170
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Ms. Lisa Todd
Program Manager Health Care Spending Account
GOER Employment Benefits Management Division
Agency Building #2
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

Facsimile: 518-473-6294

Dear Ms. Todd:

I am writing to appeal to the Benefits Management Division to extend the deadline for the Health Flex spending account. I am doing so in light of the letter that was sent to all members enrolled in the Empire Plan from Express Scripts. This letter was dated to our members on October 30th, 2004 but the actual post mark was November 10th, 2004, the very same date for the deadline to enroll in Health Flex spending account.

Effective January 1, 2005 our members will be required to shoulder the burden of a significantly increased co-payment for their prescription drug benefit in the Empire Plan, as the Express Scripts did not notify our membership in a manner that would have allowed them to participate in the Health Flex Spending Account. We are requesting the enrollment period to be extended.

Because this is such a time sensitive manner, I would request immediate action on this request.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathy J. D’Arminio

Kathy J. D’Arminio
Division 399 Council Leader

Cc Ms. Deborah Stayman; PEF Health Program Analyst
Mr. Roger Benson; President of PEF
Mr. Robert Doar; OTDA Commissioner
Mr. David Avenius; DDD Deputy Commissioner