



Office of Commissioner of
Insurance and Safety Fire

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JOHN F. KING
*Commissioner of Insurance
and Safety Fire*

Two Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
West Tower, Suite 702
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

December 29, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
Secretary of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

stateinnovationwaivers@cms.hhs.gov

RE: State of Georgia Letter of Intent for Section 1332 State Innovation Waiver Extension

Dear Secretary Kennedy and Secretary Bessent,

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1332 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the implementing regulations at 31 CFR Part 33 and 45 CFR Part 155, the State of Georgia hereby submits this Letter of Intent to apply for a five-year extension of its approved State Innovation Waiver, which currently authorizes the Georgia Reinsurance Program.

The State's current 1332 waiver was approved on November 1, 2020, for a period of five years, effectively covering plan years 2022 through 2026. Through this extension request, Georgia intends to continue the operation of its successful claims-based reinsurance program to ensure ongoing market stability, premium affordability, and expanded coverage options for Georgians.

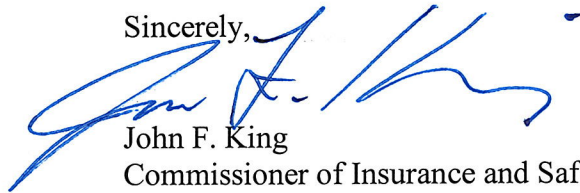
Overview and Impact of the Reinsurance Program: Since its implementation in 2022, the Georgia Reinsurance Program has been a cornerstone of our efforts to lower costs for consumers in the individual market and incent issuers to expand coverage across the State. In 2025, the program contributed to a statewide average premium reduction of 10%, with rural and high-cost regions seeing even more significant relief. These efforts, combined with the successful launch of our State-Based Exchange, Georgia Access, have resulted in record-breaking enrollment figures, with approximately 1.3 million Georgians enrolled in high-quality health plans for 2025.

Compliance with Statutory Guardrails: The State of Georgia remains committed to the four statutory guardrails of Section 1332. Our proposed extension will continue to:

1. Provide Coverage at Least as Comprehensive: Benefits will remain consistent with the Essential Health Benefits (EHB) benchmark.
2. Provide Coverage at Least as Affordable: Reinsurance will continue to lower premiums, reducing the net cost of coverage for unsubsidized enrollees and the federal government.
3. Cover a Comparable Number of Residents: By maintaining lower premiums, the program prevents market attrition and encourages new enrollment.
4. Ensure Federal Deficit Neutrality: Reinsurance will continue to reduce federal spending on premium tax credits. The State is requesting federal savings continue to be passed through to fund the program, without increasing the federal deficit

Next Steps: The Office of the Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire (OCI) will facilitate the formal application process, including the required state public notice and comment period, public hearings, and the submission of an extension application and actuarial and economic analyses. We look forward to working closely with your team at the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of the Treasury to ensure a seamless transition into the extension period.

Sincerely,



John F. King

Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire
State of Georgia

CC: Steve Mander, Deputy Commissioner – Georgia Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire
Jeremy Betts, Executive Counsel - Georgia Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire
Peter Nelson, Deputy Administrator and Director - Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services