March 11, 2015

The Honorable Andrew Slavitt
Acting Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Administrator Slavitt:

On behalf of school districts in California that depend on federal reimbursements from the School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (SMAA) program, we respectfully request your continued cooperation to fairly settle deferred claims.

The SMAA program helps ensure that students are enrolled and retained in Medi-Cal, and assists families in accessing health programs through schools. These reimbursements are critical to supporting the invaluable work of school nurses, counselors, and psychologists in school districts across California.

As you know, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) signed an agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on October 14, 2014 that allowed claims under twenty-five thousand dollars to be paid in full, and claims in excess of fifty thousand dollars to be paid at forty percent. We understand that, after considering the adverse fiscal impact the original proposal would have on school districts, DHCS submitted a new settlement proposal to CMS on February 20, 2015. We urge you to consider this proposal as you work swiftly to resolve these claims. Thank you for your attention to his matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator