

*State of Idaho*  
**DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Insurance Department has Health Care Reform Information for Consumers**

*New Web page to answer questions*

BOISE ID (April 14, 2010) – The Idaho Department of Insurance is working to help consumers understand the many changes that are coming in the health insurance marketplace with the implementation of the health care reform law, officially called the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 (PPACA).

Department Director Bill Deal says, "While there are many changes coming, no provisions of the new law require consumers to make immediate modifications to their health coverage."

The Department has a new Web page with a list of the changes included in the PPACA and when they will go into effect, as well as frequently asked questions and helpful links to other sites. Consumers can find the Health Care Reform link at [www.doi.idaho.gov](http://www.doi.idaho.gov).

Many of the initial changes will go into effect six months from when the law was signed by President Obama – or September of this year. Until then, the Department, the NAIC and the federal government are working on implementing the changes. This means designing and putting into place at the state level many of the new consumer programs and regulations.

Along with providing information, the Department has issued warnings to consumers about scams related to the PPACA. Idahoans should beware of unsolicited salespeople and agents who don't explain the coverages and insist that coverage is required by law.

To verify that an agent or company is licensed or to report a scam, consumers are encouraged to call the Department at 334-4250 in Boise or 800-721-3272 toll-free statewide.

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