



University of Mississippi
Health Care

University Hospitals and Health System

January 27, 2011

Rural Health Care Pilot Program
The University of Mississippi Medical Center
000704955

Mr. Tom Buckley
FCC

Dear Mr. Buckley,

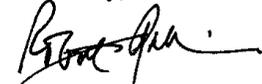
Please accept this letter as an official request for an extension to the June 30, 2010 deadline completion of the Rural Health Care Pilot Program. There are several circumstances that have contributed to this need.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) participation is actually a merger of two accepted proposals including that by UMMC and Mississippi Medicaid. A request to merge the two proposals required lengthy consideration from the FCC. This contributed to a considerable delay before UMMC was able to start acquiring LOAs from the entities that are now listed with our program.

As you are aware, there are no funds allocated for administrative functions. While the original grant application required UMMC to have significant talks and preparation with its participants, those of the original Medicaid grant were all new to the proposal. It was necessary to become familiar with them and to assess their applicability to the combined program. While we anticipate completing the RFP well before the June 30 deadline, local providers note they will need considerable time to assess over 140 lines.

We are very excited about the plans already made and relationships forged to this point. Thank you in advance for this additional consideration such that we can fulfill our responsibilities and bring this project to fruition for the people of our state.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Galli, MD
Professor