Good morning Faith, Gary & Belinda,

I'm writing to you today regarding MaineHealth's announcement last week concerning Maine Medical Center's notice of intent to terminate its provider network contract with Anthem at the end of the year. It is important to note that this contract dispute does not impact our Medicare Advantage retirees. Our Medicare Advantage plan is a passive PPO plan, which means the plan pays the same benefit, regardless of whether the provider is in or out-of-network, so long as the provider accepts Medicare and the plan. We have no reason to believe that MMC will not continue to participate with Medicare and accept Medicare Advantage plans.

As for our non-Medicare retirees and active participants, we have been, and continue to be in contact with both parties and have expressed our sincere concerns. We continue to encourage both sides to work out their differences and resolve this dispute. Termination of this contract would be unprecedented and harmful not only to our members but to a large percentage of the residents of Maine. We continue to hope that both parties will put the interests of the their patients and their members first and use their best efforts to reach an agreement and keep Maine Medical Center in the Anthem network. Please be assured that the MEA Benefits Trust and it's advisors are monitoring this situation very closely and are working on contingency plans in the unfortunate event an agreement cannot be reached.

Anthem will be sending an electronic member communication out next week and have launched a microsite where members can go to get the latest information from Anthem. The microsite is www.anthem.com/mmc. Within the FAQ document on this site, Anthem makes the following statement: "At this point, it is unclear if MaineHealth's actions will impact Medicare Advantage members, including those with Anthem I MaineHealth Medicare Advantage plans." Anthem's reference to Medicare Advantage members is specific to individual Medicare Advantage products sold by Anthem and not our group Medicare Advantage plan. We recognize this statement by Anthem may create unnecessary concerns for our members, which is why we

want to be clear that this dispute does not impact our MEABT Medicare Advantage members.

Please let me know if you have any questions and feel free to distribute the above message to your membership.

Thank you,

Jennifer Kent Executive Director MEA Benefits Trust 35 Community Drive Augusta, ME 04330 (207) 622-4418 X 2238