



## The Iowa Legislature

State of Iowa  
Eighty-eighth General Assembly  
STATEHOUSE  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Hawki Board members:

Hawki is a successful program that ensures low-cost health coverage for more than 70,000 children from working families across Iowa.

The Hawki Board of Directors is tasked with guiding the Department of Human Services' efforts to develop, implement and administer the Hawki program.

We are writing today because the latest challenge for the Hawki Board and the Department: Developing a transition plan in the wake of the decision by UnitedHealthcare to exit Iowa's privatized Medicaid system.

With the goal of ensuring a smooth transition for Hawki-covered children and their families, we have these questions for the Board and DHS officials:

- How will the Board/DHS work with UnitedHealthcare on a transition plan for hawki children covered by the MCO?
- How will the Board/DHS communicate with Hawki families about the transition from UnitedHealthcare to one of the two remaining managed-care organizations, Amerigroup Iowa or Iowa Total Care?
- Is there a firm end date for UnitedHealthcare to provide management services for hawki patients?
- How will the Board/DHS communicate with schools across the state to make sure that parents and school officials are aware of the upcoming changes? This is especially concerning for parents/guardians because they will be scheduling annual physicals, immunizations and other routine care during the summer months.
- How will the Board/DHS ensure healthcare providers continue to see Hawki as a secure and trustworthy benefit program, one that they want to be involved with.

For the past three years, privatized Medicaid has caused numerous upheavals for Iowa health care providers and Medicaid members. We are hopeful that the hawki board will lead the effort to ensure a smooth transition this spring and summer for hawki-covered children and their families.

Signed,

Sen. Nate Boulton

Rep. John Forbes