In accordance Rhode Island General Laws 42-35, notice is hereby given that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) will seek federal authority to implement the following Category III Change to Rhode Island's Comprehensive 1115 Waiver Demonstration (project no. 11-W-00242/1):

**Rhode Island Medicaid Health System Transformation Project**

As part of Governor Gina Raimondo's effort to reform Medicaid, the Working Group to Reinvent Medicaid issued an April 2015 report that recommended numerous initiatives to achieve financial savings in State Fiscal Year 2016. The Governor introduced those recommendations in a budget article entitled, "The Reinventing Medicaid Act of 2015." The Rhode Island General Assembly passed the Reinventing Medicaid Act in June. As a result of the Act's passage, EOHHS has begun implementation of a performance-based payment program for hospitals and nursing homes. The payments will reward providers for meeting certain quality standards that shift Medicaid to a value-based delivery system focused on quality patient care and outcomes. The payments will also support development of accountable entities (AEs).

This Category III waiver change requests the use of costs not otherwise matchable (CNOM) authority to receive federal matching funds for services currently provided by various state agencies. The CNOMs will support a new Designated State Health Program (DSHP). The DSHP is aimed at supporting the Medicaid program's ongoing efforts to provide comprehensive, quality care to its members. These funds, totaling an estimate of approximately $32.2 million for the first year and $147.5 million over five (5) years, will subsequently be used to support the This Category III request seeks federal authority to claim federal matching funds for the following services:

- Consumer assistance provided by the Office of the Child Advocate, Office of the Mental Health Advocate, Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Governor's Commission on Disabilities;

- Infectious disease surveillance, clinical case review, and investigation by the Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Acute Infectious Disease Epidemiology;

- Certain state university and college health professional training program expenditures specifically devoted to training the health workforce that will be needed to provide health care to Medicaid enrollees in the transformed delivery system of provider-based Accountable Entities. Training will be provided at the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the University of Rhode Island;

- Consumer navigation assistance provided through RIREACH, the Rhode Island Health Insurance Consumer Support Line, which is overseen by the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner;

- Hearing screening, and any necessary diagnostic testing or referral services, for children at all Rhode Island public and private schools provided by the Rhode Island School for the Deaf, Hearing Center;

- Diagnostic testing, case management services, and treatment services for uninsured or underinsured individuals with suspected or confirmed tuberculosis (TB) disease or latent TB infection, provided by the Miriam Hospital's RISE TB Clinic, overseen by the Rhode Island Department of Health;

- Loan repayments for graduates enrolled in the Wavemaker Fellowship, a loan repayment program administered by the Rhode Island Department of Commerce, who work in a Rhode Island healthcare setting which serves Medicaid enrollees.
This proposed Category III change is accessible on the EOHHS website (www.eohhs.ri.gov) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-1965 or RI Relay, dial 711). Interested persons should submit data, views, or written comments by Monday, May 16, 2016 to Melody Lawrence, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Hazard Building, 74 West Road, Cranston, RI, 02920, or melody.lawrence@ohhs.ri.gov.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, that the Secretary will hold a second Public Hearing on the above mentioned matter on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard.

The Public Hearing will be convened as follows:
Monday, May 16, 2016 at 2:30 p.m
Arnold Conference Center, Eleanor Slater Hospital
John O. Pastore Complex, 111 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services in the Hazard Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers /interpreters /captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please notify the Executive Office at (401) 462-1575 (hearing/speech impaired, dial 711) at least three (3) business days prior to the Public Hearing so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Original signed by:
Elizabeth H. Roberts, Secretary
Signed this 8th day of April 2016