



**Retirement and Insurance Service  
Benefits Administration Letter**

Number: 99-226

Date: December 11, 1999

**Subject: Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program: Service Area Reduction for Prepaid Health Plan of New York, Enrollment Code QE**

The State of New York has approved a service area reduction (Broome and Tioga Counties) for Prepaid Health Plan, enrollment code QE, effective April 30, 2000. Accordingly, after that date, Prepaid Health Plan is not authorized to operate a health plan in those counties.

To continue to receive benefits under the FEHB Program, enrollees in Broome and Tioga Counties **must transfer** to another participating health plan. Because we were notified near the close of open season, we expect agencies to be flexible in allowing enrollees to change to other plans. **The effective date of the new coverage will be the first day of the first full pay period in January (January 2 for most Federal employees).**

A special notice was sent to enrollees advising them to make a change to a new plan. We have attached a copy of that letter for your information.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Attachment

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abby L. Block".

Abby L. Block, Chief  
Insurance Policy  
and Information Division