

TO FEDERAL ENROLLEES OF PREPAID HEALTH PLAN (CODE QE) WHO LIVE OR WORK IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES:

Broome, Tioga

The State of New York has approved a service area reduction (Broome and Tioga Counties) for Prepaid Health Plan (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 Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, you MUST transfer to another participating health plan during the current open season. You may want to contact your current providers to find out which health plans those providers participate with under the FEHB Program. You may then contact your servicing personnel office to enroll in one of those plans. If you do not change plans, you will have to travel to the service area to receive benefits.

Please contact your personnel office to obtain a 2000 Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans. You may request brochures directly from the health plans at the phone numbers appearing in the Guide. You may also visit our 2000 FEHB web site (www.opm.gov/insure) to view a plan's brochure or the FEHB Guide and obtain valuable information to help you choose a health plan.

IF YOU ARE AN EMPLOYEE we strongly encourage you to take a copy of this letter to your personnel office **immediately** and enroll in a new plan. **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).**

IF YOU ARE AN ANNUITANT under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), you should call **Open Season Express** at **1-800-332-9798** or access **Open Season Online** at www.opm.gov/retire/fehb to make your enrollment change or to request plan brochures. Please have available your CSRS or FERS annuity claim number and your social security number when calling. If you are an annuitant of another Federal retirement system, you must contact that system for assistance. **Coverage under your new health plan will begin on January 1, 2000.**

We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation.