

Washington, D.C. 20201

DEC 2 1 2006

Ms. Lisa Madigan Illinois Attorney General Chicago Main Office 100 West Randolph Street Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Ms. Madigan:

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has received your request to review the Illinois Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act, 740 Ill. Comp. Stat. §§ 175/1 – 175/8, under the requirements of section 6031(b) of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA). Section 6031 of the DRA provides a financial incentive for states to enact laws that establish liability to the state for individuals and entities that submit false or fraudulent claims to the state Medicaid program. For a state to qualify for this incentive, the state law must meet certain requirements enumerated under section 6031(b) of the DRA, as determined by the Inspector General of HHS in consultation with the Department of Justice (DOJ). Based on our review of the law and consultation with DOJ, we have determined that the Illinois Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act meets the requirements of section 6031(b) of the DRA.

Please note that a state that has a law in effect that meets the requirements of section 6031(b) of the DRA as of January 1, 2007, will be deemed in compliance with such requirements for so long as the law continues to meet such requirements. We would appreciate it if you would notify OIG of any amendment to the Illinois Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act within 30 days after such amendment.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me, or have your staff contact Karla Hampton at (202) 205-3158 or karla.hampton@oig.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Levinson

Daniel R. Levinson

Inspector General

cc: Aaron Blight, CMS