

September 28, 2009

Health Care Coverage Commission

Dear Sirs:

I am a psychologist in private practice who employs 12 professional and clerical employees. We are not a non-profit business, but we are in the human service field. My employees include Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Counselors, Social Workers, Psychologists and business office personnel.

We are not able to buy group insurance for that small group, so I give money each month to employees to buy their own insurance. If we had the option of banding together with other small employers, we would be able to provide a group policy. Several potential employees have not been able to join our group because they needed a group plan to cover a pre-existing condition in a family member.

Any help you could offer with allowing small businesses to band together to buy group coverage would be greatly appreciated.

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Licensed Psychologist