

BUREAU OF RETIREMENT AND INSURANCE

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

December 16, 1959

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"U.S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION"
AND REFER TO

FILE R11:IK:V11W

AND DATE OF THIS LETTER



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STAT
Mr. [] President
Government Employees Health Association
Post Office Box 463
Washington 4, D. C.

STAT —
Dear []

On the basis of the evidence you have submitted to us, we have made a finding that the Government Employees Health Association qualifies as an "employee organization" under Public Law 86-382. The health benefit plan of the Government Employees Health Association is therefore eligible for approval under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Act.

To be approved, a health benefits plan must, at a minimum, meet the requirements of Public Law 86-382 and the regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission. A copy of the proposed regulations has already been made available to you for your review and comment. While the regulations are not in final form, they will provide you a point of reference in determining in what respects your own plan needs to be modified. In this connection, the law itself should also be consulted for requirements which all health plans must meet.

We hope to be able to inform each qualified employee organization by March 1, 1960 whether its modified health benefits plan meets the minimum requirements and is approved for participation in the program. We realize that all health plans will need at least some modifications and changes in order to meet the requirements of the law and the regulations. We hope to provide you with as much assistance as necessary in this respect, and to work closely with you between now and March 1, 1960 on any needed revisions in your plan.

As one means of providing this assistance, we have scheduled a meeting for representatives of employee organizations which have health plans for January 5, 1960, at 10:00 A.M., in Room 377, Main Civil Service Commission Building, 8th and F Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C. You are invited to attend or to send a representative. The persons in your organization most directly concerned with adjusting your plan to meet Federal requirements would probably want to attend. We are planning this meeting as a working session where problems can be discussed and answers worked out. Due to space limitations, we ask that no more than two representatives from

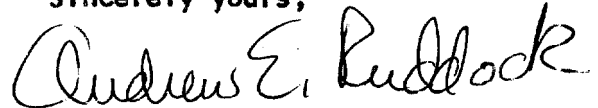
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each organization attend. One or both of these may be representatives of your insurance carrier if you believe such attendance would be helpful to you.

In planning the meeting, it would be helpful to us to know in advance the persons who will attend and in what capacity they represent the organization. Please send or phone this information in advance of the meeting, and by December 31, 1959 if possible, to Mr. Irving Kator, Staff Assistant, Bureau of Retirement and Insurance. He can be reached on DUDley 6-3333. If your organization cannot be represented at the meeting, please let us know.

I am sure you will find this meeting beneficial in providing a start that will lead to approval of your health plan by March 1, 1960.

Sincerely yours,



Andrew E. Ruddock
Director

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