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Comment On: EBSA-2010-0019-0002

Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers: Internal Claims and Appeals and External

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General Comment

On behalf of Honorary Consulate of Georgia , I wish to comment on the 10% threshold for translation and oral interpretation of private plan materials in the internal review and appeals contexts. I am a Deputy Honorary Consul and gave close ties to Georgian Community. The 10% standard is far too high. A more appropriate standard would be "5% of the plan's population or 500 persons in plan's service area" for large group plans, and 25% of population for small plans. Oral interpretation should be provided in all languages at all times. As a Deputy Honorary Consul of Georgia in USA, I have a great experience working with Georgian Community who have a language barrier at many government agencies and hospitals where Georgian interpreters are not provided.