

Contact Info: letters@phillynews.com

Link to Article: http://www.philly.com/philly/health/healthcare-exchange/20141123_More_plans_choices_in_Affordable_Care_Act_exchanges.html

Email Subject: Letter to the Editor

Hi,

I'm submitting the following letter on behalf of the CEO of the National Association of Health Underwriters, Janet Trautwein. Is there any chance you might be able to run it?

Best,
Kelly

Kelly Loussedes
National Association of Health Underwriters
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Dear Editor,

A recent article offered details on the health plans available to Philadelphia and New Jersey residents during current open enrollment period for the Affordable Care Act's insurance exchanges ("More plans, choices in Affordable Care Act exchanges," Nov. 23). Consumers baffled by all their options should consider seeking the expert counsel of a licensed, professional agent.

Access to agents is linked to lower health costs. A recent study from the University of Minnesota found that premiums were 13 percent lower in counties with higher populations of brokers.¹

Nationwide, 84 percent of those who received assistance purchasing exchange coverage from an agent or broker during last year's open enrollment period rated him or her as "helpful." No other group received a higher satisfaction rate.²

Sincerely,

Janet Trautwein
Executive Vice President and CEO
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¹ http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2013-08-22/national/41435388_1_small-firms-small-employers-brokers

² http://www.allhealth.org/briefingmaterials/5-WALTMANSLIDES_BL.PDF