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### HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT MAY 16

*Health care consumers invited to share their comments, concerns with the Commissioner and Advisory Council*

CRANSTON, RI May 10, 2017— Health insurance purchasers and other members of the public will have an opportunity to bring their comments and concerns directly to the Health Insurance Commissioner and her advisory council at a public meeting in Pawtucket.

The Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) and the Health Insurance Advisory Council (HIAC) will hold their next Quarterly Public Meeting on Tuesday, May 16 from 4:30-6:00 PM at Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, 39 East Ave, Pawtucket.

OHIC and HIAC hold these public meetings in locations throughout the state to hear from healthcare consumers – including individual and employer purchasers of health insurance – and share with them information about OHIC’s efforts to improve insurance affordability, access, and quality in Rhode Island.

“Public engagement is very important to my office, and we are looking forward to a well-attended and productive meeting in Pawtucket,” said Health Insurance Commissioner Kathleen Hittner.

More information, including the full meeting agenda, can be found at the HIAC page on the OHIC website: <http://www.ohic.ri.gov/ohic-hiac.php>

**About the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner** - *The Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) was established by legislation in 2004 to broaden the accountability of health insurers operating in the state of Rhode Island. Under this legislation, the Office is dedicated to: (1.) Protecting consumers (2.) Encouraging fair treatment of medical service providers (3.) Ensuring solvency of health insurers (4.) Improving the health care system’s quality, accessibility and affordability. The Office sets and enforces standards for health insurers in each of these four areas.* [www.ohic.ri.gov](http://www.ohic.ri.gov)

Protecting Consumers • Ensuring Solvency • Engaging Providers • Improving the System

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