



News from:

COMPTROLLER KEVIN LEMBO

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COMPTROLLER LEMBO'S STATEMENT ON ANTHEM- CCMC AGREEMENT

Comptroller Kevin Lembo said he was pleased that the Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield have finally resolved their contract dispute, but said the delayed agreement underscores the growing cost of health care.

Lembo said the new contract agreement restores continuity of care for thousands of medically fragile children in need of vital pediatric services at CCMC, including more than 4,000 children on the state health plan who have used CCMC over the past year.

"This contract resolution is a relief – and a reality check on the growing volatility of health care costs," Lembo said. "At the state level, we are aggressively fighting the cost curve and paying for value on several fronts – but we need all providers, carriers and other stakeholders on board.

"These heated – and unacceptably long – negotiations are a stark reminder that the spiraling cost of health care is defying historic reimbursement models. It should be a stark signal that Connecticut must be prepared to aggressively continue reform at the state level, regardless of how the U.S. Supreme Court rules on the federal Affordable Care Act.

"In the meantime, I commend Anthem and CCMC for ultimately resolving this dispute and ending the disruption of services for thousands of children and families.

"As the agreement confirms, patients who received services during the contract lapse since early April will not be charged out-of-network costs – and under no circumstances will state taxpayers pay the cost for out-of-network charges as a result of this contract dispute."

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