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NANCY G. GROENWEGEN COMMISSIONER

> PA 07-33 PE 07-41

To: Participating Agency Health Benefit Administrators Participating Employer Health Benefit Administrators

From: Robert W. DuBois, Director of the Employee Benefits Division

Subject: Policy Memo 133

Date: December 27, 2007

Enclosed is Policy Memo 133, issued December 5, 2007, which announces the newly prohibited practice of eligibility restriction based on spousal eligibility for NYSHIP through another employer. A NYSHIP PA or PE cannot deny NYSHIP family coverage to an otherwise eligible employee based on the fact that the employee's spouse is also eligible for NYSHIP coverage through a different employer.

Policy Memo 133 provides references to relevant statutory and regulatory authority, as well as the background and discussion surrounding the policy determination. Any questions regarding this Policy should be directed to the Employee Benefits Division.

Enclosure