



# Kansas Insurance Department

Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Internet business told to cease misrepresentation of Kansas health exchange

TOPEKA, Kan. — Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance, has ordered an Internet business operating out of the state of Washington to cease misrepresenting itself as linked to any official Kansas health insurance exchange.

The Commissioner halted the Kansas references located on My HIX Insurance Exchange as well as a telephone number linked with the site. Kansas Insurance Department (KID) officials said references were deleted from the website and confirmed by the apparent website administrator, Nathan Nead, Maple Valley, WA, shortly after the cease and desist order was issued by the Commissioner on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

The website purported to offer health insurance plans through the Kansas Health Insurance Exchange, which presently does not exist. Also, Nead isn't a licensed Kansas insurance agent.

“A health insurance exchange in Kansas wouldn't be operational, under federal law, until late 2013, at the earliest,” Commissioner Praeger said. “Many Affordable Care Act provisions are already misrepresented, and this just adds to potential confusion by consumers.”

KID officials said the website appeared to collect contact information to be sold as leads or otherwise distributed for value to insurance agents. The emergency order can be found at <http://www.ksinsurance.org/legal/orders/2011/HixE.pdf>.

A vigilant Kansas insurance agent is credited with alerting the department to the website links, Commissioner Praeger said.

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*The Kansas Insurance Department, established in 1871, assists and educates consumers, regulates and reviews companies and licenses agents selling insurance products in the state. More about the department is online at [www.ksinsurance.org](http://www.ksinsurance.org).*