

**Aetna Health Inc. – Small Group**

**Rate request** – Range of 9.7 percent to 17.2 percent

**Decision** – Smaller increase approved, effective Jan. 1, 2011

On October 8, 2010, Aetna Health Inc., filed rate requests ranging from 9.7 percent to 17.2 percent for its health care coverage used by small employers, those businesses with one to 50 workers. The new rates, which apply to renewals as well as new businesses, would affect, on average, about 25,000 members – workers and their dependents. The increase request was for plans with high deductibles and non-high deductibles. The company sought the higher rates based on increases in health care costs and a higher demand for medical services. Based on the actuarial analysis, the CID on November 3, 2010, ruled that the requested increases were excessive and rejected them, but granted smaller increases ranging from 7.9 percent to 14.2 percent for plans with high deductibles and 7.9 percent to 15.3 percent for plans with lower deductibles.