Ms. Courtney Hawkins  
Director  
Rhode Island Department of Human Services  
57 Howard Avenue  
Cranston, RI 02920

Dear Ms. Hawkins:

In accordance with section 402(a) of the Social Security Act, Rhode Island must periodically renew its funding status in order to continue to receive federal funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. This renewal process requires that the state submit a TANF plan that contains all of the necessary elements listed in section 402 of the Social Security Act, including the certifications specified under sections 402(a)(2)-(7). I am pleased to inform you that as of December 5, 2014, Rhode Island continues to qualify, per section 402 of the Social Security Act, as an "eligible State" under the TANF program. Accordingly, Rhode Island is entitled to an annual SFAG of $95,021,587.

Under section 402 of the Social Security Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to determine completeness of a state’s TANF plan. The Secretary lacks the authority to approve or disapprove a plan. Therefore, the determination of completeness should not be construed as an approval of any particular activity, or as a determination that any particular expenditure is an allowable use of TANF/MOE.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please contact Carol Monteiro, the TANF Program Manager for Region I, at (617) 565-2462.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Julie L. Siegel  
Director  
Division of State TANF Policy