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## Office of the Governor

May 5, 2026

Dr. Mehmet Oz  
Administrator  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Mehmet Oz,

Thank you for your letter dated April 23, 2026, regarding provider fraud in Medicaid. As Governor and a former Sheriff, I want to assure you that my Administration is fully committed to stopping Medicaid fraud. This includes swiftly executing the actions you have requested in your recent correspondence and more.

Stopping provider fraud is mission critical for Nevada's Medicaid program. Every year, Nevada recovers millions in taxpayer dollars stolen by providers who are actively defrauding our state's Medicaid program. However, the sophistication of these bad actors has increased with modern technology and recent advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI). This is why, as Governor, I established the state's first-ever Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG), last July, within the new Nevada Health Authority. The focus of this new office is to elevate and strengthen Medicaid's program integrity efforts by prioritizing independent oversight of Medicaid spending in the provider system.

Already, this new office has made considerable progress in bolstering efforts to prevent and detect provider fraud in Medicaid, including implementing modern technologies in support of enhanced security and fraud prevention. For example, thanks to a new specialized software solution—Torch Analytics—Nevada now has access to modernized data analytics with predictive algorithms for new fraud detection and a case management system for fraud investigations. This software employs AI to analyze thousands of claims for anomalies. This helps the OMIG team catch problematic providers quicker, supporting the application of prepayment suspensions that instantly stop the flow of taxpayer dollars to these providers. This prevents financial losses to Medicaid before they happen.

Nevada Medicaid also recently launched new biometrics technology during the Medicaid-provider enrollment process. This enhances the state's capacity for protecting its front door to Medicaid by preventing fraudulent impersonators from enrolling as providers with fake identities. Additionally, Nevada Medicaid and OMIG have deployed multiple task forces, internally and externally, in support of a more focused approach to fraud prevention for providers and services prone to fraudulent activity. This includes a new partnership with Medicaid managed care plans to better coordinate and collaborate on efforts to prevent and stop bad actors in the program.

As you can see, my Administration stands ready to not only support your efforts to combat Medicaid fraud, but to also collaborate on strategies for fraud prevention and federal enforcement in support of apprehending bad actors in Medicaid. Moving forward, please do not hesitate to reach out directly to my Director of the Nevada Health Authority, Stacie Weeks, at [sweeks@nvha.nv.org](mailto:sweeks@nvha.nv.org), in support of these efforts and any future opportunities to collaborate with you and your team on Medicaid provider fraud.

Thank you for your leadership on this prominent issue in Medicaid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joe Lombardo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joe Lombardo  
Governor of Nevada