



**T E X A S**  
**HOME SCHOOL**  
COALITION ASSOCIATION  
*Keeping Texas Families Free*

January 29, 2015

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Health Administration Center  
CHAMPVA  
PO Box 469028  
Denver, CO 80246-9028

To Whom it May Concern:

By way of introduction, let me state that the Texas Home School Coalition Association is a statewide advocacy organization for home educators, with over 60,000 home school families on our mailing list. As the statewide advocacy organization for the state of Texas, we act as a liaison with state and federal agencies in regard to issues related to home education. In fact, the State Department of Education, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), frequently refers calls received by that agency regarding home education to our organization for verification or resolution.

I am responding to your letter of denial of benefits, which was sent to Mrs. G \_\_\_\_ H \_\_\_\_, regarding her daughter M \_\_\_\_ H \_\_\_\_ and her student status. This letter stated she would no longer be eligible for health insurance coverage through her father's VA Disability Benefits provider, CHAMPVA, because she is not in school, and has reached the age of 18. Mrs. H \_\_\_\_ contacted CHAMPVA to make them aware of M \_\_\_\_'s home school status, but she was still asked to submit a statement on an official letterhead verifying enrollment in order for benefits to be continued. Mrs. H \_\_\_\_ again advised CHAMPVA that her daughter is a home school student, and sent in the requested information on her own school letterhead. The healthcare provider responded to Mrs. H \_\_\_\_ by denying her application for an extension, and stated her information was not "official."

As Mrs. H \_\_\_\_ is a member of the Texas Home School Coalition Association, I can assure you that M \_\_\_\_ is a full-time student who is being taught at home and is in full compliance with the laws of the state of Texas regarding academic standards and school attendance.

The state of Texas considers home schools private schools, and home school students in high school are considered to be in attendance in a secondary school. (Texas Education Code Section 51.9241) In addition, the Texas Family Code (Section 154.002(a)) requires that child support continue for students beyond the eighteenth birthday who are pursuing a high school diploma in a home school, since home schools are considered private schools.

This verification of M\_\_\_\_\_’s enrollment and attendance in high school should serve as documentation from a State authority that her home school program meets educational standards required of private schools in Texas. Should you have further questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Lambert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Tim Lambert

cc: Mr. and Mrs. H\_\_\_\_\_; Texas Veterans Commission; U.S. Senator Ted Cruz; U.S. Senator John Cornyn; U.S. Representative Louie Gohmert; Texas home schoolers