



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of
Health and Social Services**

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Director's Office

4501 Business Park Blvd., Suite 24, Bldg. L
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-7167
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February 1, 2018

Dear Tribal Health Leader,

On behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), in keeping with the DHSS responsibility to conduct tribal consultation, I am writing to inform you of a proposed future Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA). *This letter of consultation is written in conjunction with public notice for a regulation change.*

Pharmacy Program: The proposed amendment will result in updates to the Alaska Medicaid Preferred Drug List, the Alaska Medicaid Prior-Authorization List, the Alaska Medicaid 90-Day Generic Prescription Medication List, and Pharmacy Services provider enrollment. The updates include:

- exempting certain covered outpatient drugs from cost-sharing requirements;
- defining enrollment requirements for pharmacists and pharmacy service providers;
- clarifying the usage of non-preferred drugs by 340B program pharmacy service providers who have carved-in Medicaid;
- updating the Alaska Medicaid Preferred Drug List, the Medicaid 90 Day Generic Prescription Medication List, and the Alaska Medicaid Prior Authorization List.

The changes set certain limitations, but may concurrently expand access in other areas for IHS recipients. The impact is anticipated to be nominal in some areas related to preferred drugs and prior authorization. Broader impact is anticipated with the addition of pharmacist enrollment.

Please provide any written comments or questions regarding this proposed future State Plan Amendment by 5 pm March 26, 2018, to Courtney O'Byrne King, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, 4501 Business Park Blvd, Building L, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, or courtney.king@alaska.gov. Please also feel free to call at 907.334.2653.

If you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss this proposed State Plan Amendment, please request such in writing within 15 days of receipt of this letter.

Comments provided in response to this letter are considered comments for consultation on the state plan amendment and not comments on the proposed regulations. Comments on the proposed regulations will not be considered as comments to the consultation. If you wish to

comment on both the consultation and the proposed regulations, you must do so separately directing comments regarding the regulations to Erin Narus, PharmD, RPh, Pharmacy Program Manager, at erin.narus@alaska.gov or 907.334.2425.

To locate the proposed changes to regulations, please refer to the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services web page, at the "Public Notices" link.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. King", written in a cursive style.

Courtney O'Byrne King, MS
Medicaid State Plan Coordinator