



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Health

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Anchorage

3601 C Street, Suite 902
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5923
Main: 907.269.7800
Fax: 907.269.0060

Juneau

350 Main Street, Suite 404
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Main: 907.465.3030
Fax: 907.465.3068

October 9, 2023

Dear Tribal Health Leaders,

On behalf of the Department of Health (the department) and in keeping with the responsibility to conduct tribal consultation, I am writing to inform you of a proposed future Medicaid state plan amendment (SPA). *This opportunity for consultation runs concurrently with public comment on proposed regulations.*

Purpose and content of the proposed amendment:

The department intends to submit a SPA to update *attached sheet to attachment 3.1-A, attachment 3.1-L (alternative benefit plan)*, and *attachment 4.19-B* of the Alaska Medicaid State Plan to reflect the addition of advanced practice dental hygienists as Medicaid billing providers.

Anticipated impact on Medicaid-eligible Alaska Native/American Indian beneficiaries:

The department anticipates the addition of the advanced dental practice hygienist provider type will increase access to appropriate and timely services for all Alaskans, including American Indian and Alaska Native beneficiaries.

Anticipated impact on tribal health programs and the Indian Health Service:

Tribal health programs may experience some benefit through increased provider availability for beneficiaries requiring services outside the tribal health system.

Mechanism and timeline for comment

Written comments or questions regarding the proposed amendment are due no later than the close of business, November 27, 2023. If seeking an in-person meeting regarding the proposed changes, please provide a written request within 15-days of the date of this letter. Please direct all written correspondence to Emily Beaulieu, Alaska Department of Health, 3601 C Street, Suite 902, Anchorage, AK 99503, or emily.beaulieu@alaska.gov.

*Comments received in response to this consultation letter are considered for consultation and not comment on the regulations. Comments on the regulations are not considered comments for consultation on the SPA. **You must do so separately if you wish to provide comments for consideration in both the SPA and the regulations processes.** To locate the regulations, please refer to the State of Alaska web page at the "[Public Notices](#)" link.*

Sincerely,

/s/

Emily Beaulieu