



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Health
and Social Services

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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December 2, 2021

Dear Tribal Health Leaders

On behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services (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 proposes to submit a SPA updating the effective date attached to the reimbursement rates for Inpatient Psychiatric Services for Individuals under 21 years of age. This change aligns the state plan with proposed regulation changes referenced above and for which comments should be submitted separately.

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

The department does not anticipate that this proposed SPA will adversely impact Medicaid-eligible Alaska Native/American Indian beneficiaries.

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

The department does not anticipate that this proposed SPA will adversely impact the Indian Health Service or Alaska tribal providers.

Mechanism and timeline for comment:

Written comments or questions regarding the proposed amendment are due no later than the close of business, January 18, 2022. If seeking an in-person meeting regarding the proposed SPA, please transmit a written request within 15-days of the date of this letter. Please direct all written correspondence to Courtney O'Byrne King, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, 3601 C Street, Suite 902, Anchorage, AK 99503, or courtney.king@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. **If you wish to provide comments for consideration in both the SPA and the regulations processes, you must do so separately.** Please refer to the State of Alaska web page at the "[Public Notices](#)" link to locate the regulations.*

Sincerely,

/s/

Courtney O'Byrne King, MS
Medicaid State Plan Coordinator