

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

DIVISION OF INSURANCE

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Bulletin B 23-03

TO: ALL INSURERS AUTHORIZED TO TRANSACT HEALTH INSURANCE BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF ALASKA AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

RE: INSURER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THIRD-PARTY LIABILITY IN MEDICAID

Under the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (CAA), Congress increased state flexibility with respect to Third-Party Liability in Medicaid. This Act introduced two new third-party liability requirements.

Under AS 21.09.242, the Alaska Division of Insurance requires health insurers and pharmacy benefits managers to cooperate with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (recently changed to Department of Health) with respect to medical assistance programs. The CAA lays out new requirements for insurance companies for claims handling for medical assistance under AS 47.07.

- 1) A third-party payer may not refuse payment for a covered item or service solely on the basis that such item or service did not receive prior authorization under the third-party payer's rules.
- 2) Third-party payers are required to respond to a state inquiry regarding a health care claim within 60 days of receiving the inquiry.

To ensure continued cooperation consistent with AS 21.07.242, the division directs insurers to implement the above requirements immediately.

Questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Sarah Bailey via email sarah.bailey@alaska.gov.

Dated April 7, 2023

Lori Wing-Heier

Director