

## Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

DIVISION OF INSURANCE

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Regulatory Order No. R20-02

Waiver of External Healthcare Review Deadlines

On March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued an emergency declaration of a public health disaster regarding the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in response to an anticipated outbreak. Due to the Governor's declaration and pursuant to AS 21.06.080(d), the Director finds that emergency measures are needed to ensure insurers remain in compliance with the laws and regulations if their normal business operations are disrupted.

The Director Hereby Orders:

- The deadlines required for external healthcare reviews in 3 AAC 28.958 3 AAC 28.964 have been extended. Insurers shall make reasonable efforts to meet the deadlines required in regulation. The Division, Insurers and Independent Review organizations will need to process requests for Standard External Healthcare review cooperatively to meet an extended deadline of 75 days. All Expedited External Healthcare Reviews will be processed to completion in no more than 5 working days. Experimental and Investigational Healthcare Reviews will be extended to a 30-day deadline.
- 2. If there will be significant delays in meeting the deadlines, insurers should inform the Division and notify them of their timeline.

This order is effective March 18, 2020.

Lori Wing-Heier, Director