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April 26, 2023

The Honorable Neal Foster
House Finance Committee Co-chair
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Rm 508
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Foster,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supplementation information on Alaska Department of Health’s SB 58 / HB 59: Postpartum Medicaid bill presentation to the House Finance Committee on April 20, 2023. Please find the requests and corresponding responses below.

Q1: Can you provide a timeline for implementation?

Implementation Timeline for Medicaid Postpartum Extension Coverage

Regulation Steps	Regulation Anticipated Timeline	Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) Steps	SPA Anticipated Timeline
Bill signed into law	Unknown		
Draft Regulations	Already drafted	Draft SPA	1 week
Review & Internal/External Approvals	2-3 Months*		
Department of Law (DOL) preliminary review	2-4 Months*		
Internal review/finalize documents	2-4 Weeks	Internal review/finalize documents	1 – 2 weeks
Public Notice/Oral Hearing	30-45 days*	Tribal consultation notice/public notice	Minimum of 30 days; will match regulation notice timeline
Review and draft responses to public comments; amend draft if necessary	1 Month	Review and draft responses to comments; amend SPA if necessary	Up to 30 days
DOL final review	2 – 3 months*	SPA submission to CMS for approval	SPA submission allowed 60 days post-tribal

			consultation notification date
Adoption of regulations and transmission to Office of Lieutenant Governor	1 – 2 weeks	CMS approval process	CMS approval can take up to 90 days; SPA effective date will match regulations effective date.
Filing by the Office of Lieutenant Governor	2 – 3 weeks*		
Effective date	30 days after filing		

* These timelines can vary; this is based on historical regulation package timelines and are outside the control of the Department of Health.

I hope you find this information to be useful. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff, Courtney Enright at 907-310-4296 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Heidi Hedberg
Commissioner-designee

cc:

Laura Stidolph, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor
Emily Ricci, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Health
Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health

