



IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION IN ALASKA

Status Report

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Alaska Health Care Commission
August 3, 2010**

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW

- Title I: Private Health Care Coverage
- Title II: Public Health Care Coverage
- Title III: Health Care Delivery & Payment
- Title IV: Prevention & Public Health
- Title V: Health Care Workforce
- Title VI: Fraud, Waste, and Abuse
- Title VII: Pharmaceuticals
- Title VIII: CLASS Act
- Title IX: Taxes & Fees
- Title X: Amendments

OVERVIEW OF THE LAW

- Important to use consolidated version of the law, or check HCERA and Title X of PPACA for amendments
- Important to understand:
 - “Authorizations” vs. “Appropriations”
 - Effective dates of provisions are not necessarily the same as implementation dates of resulting new rules, programs and offices
 - The details regarding how the law will be implemented are coming out daily, and will be for months and years to come, in federal regulation, CMS guidance memos, and federal grant guidance documents.

STATUS OF FEDERAL IMPLEMENTATION

- 25 Funding opportunities released to-date (at least)
- 8 Regulation packages released to-date (at least)
- 1 New federal office established (at least)
- 3 New councils/boards/committees formed (at least)
- New website live – www.healthcare.gov

SOA ALASKA PPACA IMPACT TEAM

○ Purpose

- Ensure Compliance with Federal Law
- Provide Guidance and Coordination
- Minimize Adverse Impact/Optimize Opportunities

○ Team Members

- Department of Administration
- Division of Insurance, Department of CC&ED
- Department of Health & Social Services
- Department of Law
- OMB

STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implement Employer Requirements
- Implement Medicaid Expansion
- State Options
 - High Risk Pool
 - Early Retirees Reinsurance Program
 - Health Insurance Exchange
 - Insurance Market Reforms
 - Service Delivery and Payment Reforms
 - Public Health & Prevention Programs
 - Health Workforce Development Programs

GRANTS/CONTRACTS FOR WHICH SOA AGENCIES HAVE OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING

- Temporary Health Insurance High Risk Pool (Sec. 1101)
 - Contract between Alaska and US DHHS signed July 15 by Alaska, July 19 by feds
 - Alaska's allocation: \$13 million
- Temporary Reinsurance Program for Early Retirees (Sec.s 1102, 10102)
 - Application submitted by DOA July 3

GRANTS/CONTRACTS FOR WHICH SOA AGENCIES HAVE OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING

- Personal Responsibility Education Grant (Sec.s 2953, 10201)
 - Application submitted by DHSS June 8
- Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visitation Program (Sec. 2951)
 - Application submitted by DHSS July 9
 - Phase I grant, \$584.3, awarded July 21
- Support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens (Sec.s 10211-10214)
 - Application under development by CDVSA/DPS – due Aug 2

GRANTS/CONTRACTS FOR WHICH SOA AGENCIES HAVE OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING

- Health Workforce Development Planning
(Sec. 5102)
 - Application submitted by Dept of Labor/AWIB July 19
- Health Professions for TANF Recipients
(Sec. 5507)
 - Application under development by Labor/AWIB – due Aug 5

GRANTS/CONTRACTS FOR WHICH SOA AGENCIES HAVE OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING

- Aging and Disability Resource Centers (Sec. 2405)
 - Application submitted by DHSS July 30
- Medicare Part D Outreach (Sec. 3306)
 - Application submitted by DHSS July 30
- National Background Check Program (Sec. 6201)
 - Application under development by DHSS – due Aug 9
- Strengthening the Public Health Infrastructure (Sec. 4002)
 - Application under development by DHSS – due Aug 9

GRANTS/CONTRACTS FOR WHICH SOA AGENCIES ARE CONSIDERING APPLYING

- Health Insurance Exchange Planning (Sec. 1311)
 - Division of Insurance; Application due Sept 1
- Health Insurance Consumer Assistance (Sec. 1002)
 - Division of Insurance; Application due Sept 10
- Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration Project (Sec. 2403)
 - DHSS; Application due Jan 7, 2011

OTHER SOA ACTIVITIES/INVOLVEMENT

- 2 Alaskans appointed to US DHHS HRSA Committee to Review Criteria for the Designation of Medically Underserved Areas and Health Professional Shortage Areas:
 - Sally Smith, Dillingham; Bristol Bay Area Health Corp Board Chair and also National Indian Health Board Member
 - Alice Rarig, PhD, Juneau; AK Department of Health & Social Service Health Planner
- Division of Insurance actively participating in National Association of Insurance Commissioners' work with US DHHS

OTHER PPACA ACTIVITIES IN ALASKA

- Federal Task Force to Improve Access to Health Care in Alaska (Sec. 5606 (added by Sec.10501))
 - Report Due to Congress Sept 23, 2010 (then TF expires)
 - AK Site Visit Week of 8/9; Anchorage Meeting 8/11
 - Members:
 - CHAIR: Marilyn Tavenner, CMS COO
 - RDML Colin Chinn, Director TRICARE West
 - Col Paul Friedrichs, Commander, 3rd Med Grp, USAF
 - CDR Joanathan Copley, Medical Chief US Coast Guard
 - Kenneth Canestrini, TRICARE Chief, Army Medical Dept
 - Susan Pendergrass, VA Integrated Healthcare Network
 - Alex Spector, Medical Center Director, VA Alaska
 - Susan Johnson, Reg X Director, US DHHS
 - Chris Mandregan, Director, AK Native Health Svc, IHS
 - John Hammarlund, Reg. X Administrator, CMS

OTHER PPACA ACTIVITIES IN ALASKA

- Indian Health Care Improvement Act Reauthorization (Sec. 10221)
 - Alaska Native Health Board and Tribal Health Organizations engaged in learning about the implications for Alaska's Tribal Health System.
 - ANHB providing IHCIA work session for their members in August.
- University of Alaska staff considering workforce development opportunities for which institutions of higher education are eligible.

IMPACTS: STATE OF ALASKA

1. Budgetary Costs
2. Changes to State Statutes and Regulations
3. Agency Policy and Programmatic Changes
4. New Employer Obligations
5. State Flexibility
6. Role in the Health Care System

ALASKA HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

- Commission Status & Next Steps
 - SB 172 passed April 17, transmitted June 7, signed June 23
 - New members to be appointed soon: Over 20 applicants for 5 vacancies; interviews complete
 - Dates of first meeting dependent on availability of new members