



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is scheduling the public hearing noted below in response to a request from the Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care and the Home Medical Equipment and Services Association of New England. The hearing is related to EOHHS' April 12, 2017 notice regarding a proposed amendment to the Medicaid State Plan as follows:

Home Health Face-to-Face Requirements

On February 2, 2016, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published a final rule (CMS-2348-F) that implements section 6407 of the Affordable Care Act and section 504 of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) to strengthen the provision and integrity of home health services. EOHHS is providing public notice of our intent to amend the Medicaid State Plan with regard to home health services in order to comply with the final rule. This amendment proposes to add a requirement that physicians must document a face-to-face encounter with the Medicaid beneficiary for the authorization of home health services (including nursing services, home health aide services, medical supplies and equipment and therapies). The proposed effective date of this SPA is July 1, 2017.

These changes are projected to result in an increase in annual expenditure of approximately \$620,000 (all funds).

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, that the Secretary will hold a public hearing on the above mentioned matter on **Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard.

The public hearing will be convened as follows:

Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Arnold Conference Center, Eleanor Slater Hospital
John O. Pastore Complex, 111 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

This proposed amendment is accessible on the EOHHS website (www.eohhs.ri.gov) or available in hard copy upon request (401) 462-1575 or RI Relay, dial 711. Interested persons should submit data, views, or written comments **by Thursday, June 15, 2017** to: Melody Lawrence, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Hazard Building, 74 West Road, Cranston, RI, 02920, or melody.lawrence@ohhs.ri.gov.

The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services in the Hazard Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers /interpreters /captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please notify the Executive Office at (401) 462-1575 (hearing/speech impaired, dial 711) at least three (3) business days prior to the public hearing so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Original signed by: _____

Anya Rader Wallack, PhD, Acting Secretary

Signed this 8th day of May 2017