



April 28, 2020

Office of the Commissioner, Adam Crum
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
State of Alaska
3601 C Street, Suite 902
Anchorage, AK 99503-5923

RE: COVID-19 Disaster Order of Suspension No. 2, Appendix A-Amendment 2, Amended
04/09/20, 7AAC.160.115, Suspend the deadline for self-audits

Commissioner Crum,

On behalf of the members of the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities (AADD), Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Workgroup, we would like to request an **extension** to 7AAC.160.115, deadline for self-audits, **to September 30, 2020** from its current due date of **June 7, 2020**. The COVID-19 Disaster Order of Suspension No. 2, changed the due date from June 7 to May 11, we do believe in error.

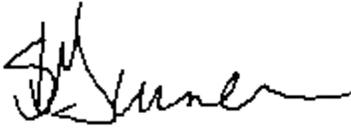
As essential frontline healthcare providers our energy and resources have been focused on the health, safety, and well-being of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) and our essential workforce. This pandemic is unprecedented. Provider agencies were not as prepared as we would have liked to have been to continue delivering essential services that keep recipients of service, Direct Support Providers (DSPs), and support staff safe during this disaster emergency. The amount of time and focus that has been required of provider agency employees to do this has been enormous. The timeline for the Provider Self-Audits will put an additional hardship on provider agencies during this incredibly stressful time.

Due to COVID-19, provider agencies have been complying with the State Health Mandates by teleworking as much as possible with the stay at home order. Provider agency support and administrative employees are working at home and others are not working at all. The substantial provider agency workforce has been diminished along with the rest of the State

workforce. Teleworking, while keeping people safe, does not allow employee's access to all of the required audit information, either electronic or hard copy, to complete the Provider Self-Audit.

Please consider this request for an extension to September 30, 2020 for the final report due to Program Integrity for the Provider Self-Audits. This extension will allow providers the time necessary to complete the self-audit and all the documentation, disclosure, and reporting requirements.

AADD sincerely appreciates your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Garner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Susan Garner

Chair, AADD CFO Workgroup

CC: Doug Jones, Medicaid Program Integrity Manager
John Lee, SDS Director