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HMK/CHIP and Medicaid State Plan Amendments for 12-Month Postpartum Continuous Eligibility effective July 1, 2023

On or before September 30, 2023, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is submitting Healthy Montana Kids (HMK)/Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA), effective July 1, 2023, to extend the coverage of postpartum women enrolled in Montana's Medicaid and CHIP from 60 days to 12 months.

Sections 9812 and 9822 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) give states a new option to provide 12 months of extended postpartum coverage to pregnant individuals enrolled in CHIP and Medicaid beginning April 1, 2022. The newly extended postpartum coverage option offers states an opportunity to provide care that can reduce pregnancy-related deaths and severe maternal morbidity and improve continuity of care for chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, cardiac conditions, substance use disorder, and depression.

The estimated annual cost of the proposed HMK/CHIP SPA is \$13,561. The estimated annual cost of the proposed Medicaid SPA is \$4,504,585.

We invite your public comments and questions postmarked **through July 20, 2023**. You may direct comments to Mary Eve Kulawik, Medicaid State Plan Amendment and Waiver Coordinator, at (406) 444-2584 or mkulawik@mt.gov; or Director's Office, PO Box 4210, Helena MT 59604-4210.