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## State Demonstrations Group

Jacey Cooper  
Chief Deputy Director  
Department of Health Care Services  
1501 Capitol Avenue, 6th Floor, MS 0000  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Cooper:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) received California's request to extend the state's section 1115 demonstration entitled, "Medi-Cal 2020" (Project Number 11-W-00193/9) on September 16, 2020. CMS understands that the state's request to extend the demonstration by twelve (12) months is due to the impact of the public health emergency, COVID-19 pandemic. We have completed a preliminary review of your request in accordance with the requirements of 42 CFR 431.412(a), and have determined that the state's application meets these requirements for a complete application.

In response to the public health emergency, COVID-19 pandemic, CMS acknowledged its authority under 42 CFR 431.416(g)(2) to permit a state to depart from the normal public notice procedures described in section 431.408. Specifically, under section 431.416(g)(2), CMS may "exempt" a state from the "normal public notice process" when an "unforeseen . . . public health emergency. . . warrant[s] an exception to the normal public notice process." Under section 431.416(g)(3), in order for a state to receive an exemption under section 431.416(g)(2), the state must meet three criteria: (i) the state must be acting in good faith, and in a diligent, timely, and prudent manner; (ii) the circumstances must constitute an emergency that could not have been reasonably foreseen; and (iii) it must be the case that a delay would undermine or compromise the purpose of the demonstration and be contrary to the interests of beneficiaries." CMS has determined that the state has met these criteria.

The state's extension request will be posted on the Medicaid.gov website for a 30-day federal public comment period as required by 42 CFR 431.416(b). The state's application will be available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/index.html>.

We look forward to working with you and your staff on the proposed demonstration project. If you have questions regarding the section 1115 extension process, please contact your CMS project officer, Lorraine Nawara at [Lorraine.Nawara1@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Lorraine.Nawara1@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

10/1/2020

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Signed by: Andrea J. Casart -A

Andrea J. Casart  
Director  
Division of Coverage and Expansion  
Demonstrations

cc: Cheryl Young, State Monitoring Lead, Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group