

JOHN F. KING Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

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BULLETIN 21-EX-3

TO: ALL INSURERS AUTHORIZED TO WRITE ACCIDENT AND HEALTH

INSURANCE AND HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

FROM: JOHN F. KING

INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

RE: FURTHER EXTENSION OF DIRECTIVES RELATED TO

ONGOING COVID-19 SURGE

As the COVID-19 delta variant continues to surge in Georgia, hospitals are experiencing high demand on inpatient hospital services and are having difficulties discharging current patients to

lower levels of care in order to free up beds for new COVID patients.

The purpose of this Directive is to extend Directives <u>21-EX-1</u> and <u>21-EX-2</u>, which advise insurers authorized to write accident and health insurance in this state, health maintenance organizations, municipal cooperative health benefits plans, and prepaid health services plans to temporarily suspend preauthorization requirements for post-acute placements, as well as certain utilization review and notification requirements. These Directives will be extended **through September 30**, subject to further evaluation.

This action is meant to help free up bed space and clinical staff to better support COVID patients in Georgia's hospitals.

JOHN F. KING INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER STATE OF GEORGIA