

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST  
RELEASE DATE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2022**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROPOSES TO SUBMIT  
A STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO ELIMINATE COPAYMENTS IN THE  
MEDI-CAL PROGRAM**

This notice provides information of public interest that the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) proposes to submit State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0045 to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to seek federal approval to eliminate copayments in the Medi-Cal program, effective July 1, 2022. As part of the Assembly Bill 204 Budget Act of 2022: Health Omnibus, the legislature will make Sections 14134 and 14134.1 of the Welfare and Institutions Code inoperative, effectively July 1, 2022, to eliminate the authority for fee-for-services providers to collect nominal copayments from Medi-Cal beneficiaries when the beneficiary or service was not exempt from copays when the bill is enacted. The Budget Act also repeals the statutes, effective July 1, 2023. SPA 22-0045 aligns the State Plan with state law that eliminates copayments for Medi-Cal services, effective July 1, 2022.

**PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS**

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA 22-0045 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending-2022.aspx>

If you would like a physical copy of the SPA once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA 22-0045 by requesting it in writing to the mailing or email addresses listed below. Please indicate SPA 22-0045 in the subject line or message.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services  
Benefits Division  
Attn: Jim Elliott  
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4601  
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to [PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov). Please indicate SPA 22-0045 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA 22-0045 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.