

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: JUNE 30, 2022**

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO INCREASE THE REIMBURSE-
MENT RATE FOR THE NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM**

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA 22-0054 is seeking federal authority to increase the Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service (FFS) reimbursement rate for the Newborn Screening (NBS) Program's Newborn Metabolic Screening Panel code S3620, effective July 1, 2022.

Senate Bill 1095 (Chapter 393, Statutes of 2016) established Health & Safety Code section 125001(d), which required the NBS Program to expand statewide screening of newborns by adding adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD) and any other disease that is detectable in blood samples within two years of the disease screen being adopted by the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP).

In California, the NBS Program is administered by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). CDPH increased the all-inclusive program participation fee it charges providers by \$33.75 to \$211.00, effective July 1, 2022. This SPA seeks to implement a corresponding Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service (FFS) rate increase to \$211.00 for code S3620 in order to fully reimburse providers for the participation fee that CDPH charges, effective July 1, 2022.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for the NBS Program will increase by approximately \$3 million in total funds, based on data available at this time.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is July 1, 2022. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA #22-0054 will be published at the following internet address:

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

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA #22-0054 using the mailing or email addresses listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Fee-For-Service Rates Development Division
Attn: Provider Rates Section
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4600
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA #22-0054 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA #22-0054 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.