



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

October 4, 2021

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations
Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group
601 East 12th Street, Suite 0300
Kansas City, Missouri 6106-2898

Dear Mr. Scott:

**RE: Louisiana Title XXI State Plan
Transmittal No. 21-0016 MMDL-Medicaid Twelve Months Continuous
Eligibility**

Please refer to the above-proposed State Plan amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 21-0016 with an effective date of April 1, 2021. The SPA proposed to amend the provisions governing eligibility for the CHIP Program to update the list of beneficiaries under the age 19 for whom twelve months of continuous eligibility is not available.

CMS reviewed the submittal packet and determined that an exception is not needed if citizenship or immigration status is not verified by the end of the reasonable opportunity period. Consistent with Federal rules, these children would not be permitted to continue to be enrolled in coverage. CMS also noted that Louisiana is the first state to request state specific exceptions to the continuous eligibility period since CMS published its final rules at 457.342 in 2016. These rules include certain federally required exceptions, but do not allow for state specific exceptions to the continuous eligibility period; therefore, Louisiana's state specific proposed exception for children with other health insurance is not approvable. For these reasons, the State no longer wishes to pursue the SPA and requests that it be withdrawn from consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Gillies".

Patrick Gillies
Medicaid Executive Director

PG:KHB:SSJ