



Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group

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November 5, 2019

Mr. Matt Wimmer  
Division Administrator for Medicaid  
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare  
450 West State Street,  
PTC Building, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boise, ID 83705

Dear Mr. Wimmer:

I am writing to inform you that CMS is granting approval of Idaho's electronic visit verification (EVV) good faith effort exemption request. CMS has determined that your state's request is in accordance with 12006(a)(4)(B) of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act (Cures Act). Specifically, your state has made a good faith effort to comply with EVV requirements by conducting an analysis of all Personal Care and Home Health Services provided by Medicaid and recommending an EVV model to the Division Administrator. The state has also held several stakeholder meetings with plans to continue once a model is approved, and has held preliminary meetings with the state's MMIS vendor to discuss options related to implementing the proposed model.

In addition, your state has encountered unavoidable delays when implementing its EVV system including the need to identify ways to work around the Red Tape Reduction Act which caused an increase in the number of approvals needed to process requests through the Department of Financial Management. The state also cites several vacancies in critical staff positions which require the need to budget current staff time between EVV implementation, and the recently passed Medicaid Expansion including five additional mandates related to this expansion.

Because your state has sufficiently demonstrated it has made a good faith effort to comply with EVV requirements and has encountered unavoidable delays, CMS will not apply federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) reductions in calendar year 2020. Please be advised that the Cures Act provision on good faith effort exemptions does not provide CMS with authority to delay the FMAP reductions for more than one year. If you have any questions please email [EVV@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:EVV@cms.hhs.gov) or contact your CMS Regional Office.

Sincerely,

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Ralph F. Lollar, Director  
Division of Long Term Services and Supports