

APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No: 560 Department or Agency: Alabama Medicaid Agency

Rule No: 560-X-62-.03

Rule Title: Regional Care Organizations — Governing Board of Directors

X New Rule; _____ Amend; _____ Repeal; _____ Adoption by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? _____ no

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? _____ yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? _____ no

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree? _____ no

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? _____ no

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? _____ yes

Does the proposed rule have any economic impact? _____ no

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975 and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer: Stephanie Lindsay

Date: 12-17-2013

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ALABAMA MEDICAID AGENCY

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

RULE NO. & TITLE: 560-X-62-.03 Regional Care Organizations – Governing Board of Directors

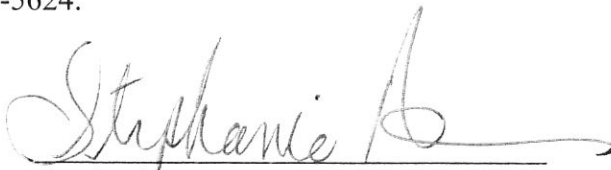
INTENDED ACTION: Add New Rule 560-X-62-.03

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The above referenced rule is being created to comply with the Code of Alabama, 1975 Section 22-6-150 et seq. This rule is being added to Chapter 62 to the Alabama Administrative Code which addresses Regional Care Organizations (RCOs) created by Code of Alabama, 1975 Section 22-6-150 et seq. The new rule sets forth requirements for the Governing Board of an RCO and an organization with probationary certification to comply with Section 22-6-150 et seq.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written or oral comments may be submitted to the Alabama Medicaid Agency, 501 Dexter Avenue, Post Office Box 5624, Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5624. Agency business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: Written/Oral comments concerning this change must be received by the Alabama Medicaid Agency no later than February 4, 2014.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Stephanie Lindsay, Administrative Secretary, Alabama Medicaid Agency, 501 Dexter Avenue, Post Office Box 5624, Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5624.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephanie McGee Azar", written in black ink. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Stephanie McGee Azar
Acting Commissioner

**Rule No. 560-X-62-.03 - Regional Care Organizations - Governing Board of Directors NEW
RULE**

(1) A regional care organization and an organization with probationary regional care organization certification shall have a governing board of directors composed of the following members:

(a) Twelve members shall be persons representing risk-bearing participants in the regional care organization or organization with probationary certification. A participant bears risk by contributing cash, capital, or other assets to the regional care organization. A participant also bears risk by contracting with the regional care organization to treat Medicaid beneficiaries at a capitated rate per beneficiary or to treat Medicaid beneficiaries even if the regional care organization does not reimburse the participant.

(b) Eight members shall be persons who do not represent a risk-bearing participant in the regional care organization.

(i) Five members shall be medical professionals who provide care to Medicaid beneficiaries in the region.

Three of these members shall be primary care physicians, one an optometrist, and one a pharmacist. One primary care physician shall be from a Federally Qualified Health Center appointed jointly by the Alabama Primary Health Care Association and the Alabama Chapter of the National Medical Association and the other two primary care physicians shall be appointed by a caucus of county boards of health in the region through a meeting of the chairpersons of each county board of health or his/her physician designee. The optometrist shall be appointed by the Alabama Optometric Association, or its successor organization. The pharmacist shall be appointed by the Alabama Pharmacy Association, or its successor organization. All five medical professionals shall work in the region served by the regional care organization. None of these members shall be a risk-bearing participant in the regional care organization or be an employee of a risk-bearing participant, but these members may contract with the regional care organization on a fee-for-service basis.

(ii) Three members shall be community representatives and may not be risk-bearing participants in the regional care organization or employees of a risk-bearing participant. They are comprised as follows:

- (A) The chair of the citizen's advisory committee established pursuant to the Medicaid Administrative Code.
- (B) A citizen's advisory committee member, elected by the committee, who is a representative of an organization that is part of the Disabilities Leadership Coalition of Alabama or Alabama Arise, or their successor organizations.

(C) A business executive, nominated by a chamber of commerce in the region, who works in the region.

(2) A majority of the members of the board may not represent a single type of provider, such as hospitals or doctors engaged in medical practice.

(3) Medicaid shall have the power to approve the members of the governing board and the board's structure, powers, bylaws, or other rules of procedure. No organization shall be granted probationary regional care organization certification or full regional care organization certification without approval.

(4) The regional care organization, the caucus of county boards of health in the region, the citizen's advisory committee, and the optometric and pharmacy associations shall promptly fill any vacancy on the board of directors. The Medicaid Commissioner shall appoint a replacement board member if a board seat is left vacant for at least three months.

(5) The governing board may not take any action unless at least one physician, appointed by a caucus of county boards of health in the region, who does not represent a risk-bearing participant and who does not hold one of the three seats held by community representatives, votes on the prevailing side.

(6) The membership of the governing board of directors shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the region. All non-risk bearing members of the governing board must reside in the Medicaid region during his/her tenure as a board member.

Author: Sharon Weaver, Administrator, Administrative Procedures Office.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975 Section 22-6-150 *et seq.*

History: Filed December 17, 2013.