

Broadcast DMAS 109

DATE: January 11, 2023

TO: LDSS Directors and Eligibility Staff and Cover Virginia Staff

FROM: Angela Morse, Director, Benefit Programs, Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)

Cindy Olson, Director, Eligibility and Enrollment Services, Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

SUBJECT: Consolidated Appropriations Act and the end of the Continuous Coverage Requirement

The purpose of this broadcast is to inform local agencies of actions taken by Congress in December 2022.

On Thursday, December 29, 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023 was enacted. This law separates the Federal Public Health Emergency declaration from the Medicaid Continuous Coverage requirement as of March 31, 2023, meaning that states will no longer be required to continue coverage regardless of changes in circumstances.

As of April 1, 2023, Virginia will resume normal operations and begin redetermining eligibility for approximately 2.1 million Medicaid members. Renewal packets for May renewals will be sent out after the ex parte run in March. Local departments of social services can begin taking actions, including adverse actions (reducing coverage, closing coverage, increasing patient pay), beginning in April.

Additional guidance is expected soon from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and DMAS will be working with VDSS to issue guidance to local agencies as soon as possible.