

Alaska State Innovation Waiver
 Section 1332 Waiver Extension Application
 Summary of Comments
 July 2022

Commenter	Summary of Comment	Departments' Response
<p>The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)</p>	<p>ACS CAN supports approval of Alaska's waiver extension application. A well-designed reinsurance program can help to lower premiums, mitigate plan risk associated with high-cost enrollees, and maintain or increase plan competition. The estimated premium savings resulting from the extended reinsurance program will help cancer patients and survivors afford health insurance coverage and may allow some individuals to enroll who previously could not afford coverage. Uninsured individuals are less likely to get screened for cancer and are therefore more likely to have their cancer diagnosed at an advanced stage when survival is less likely and the cost of care more expensive. ACS CAN also notes that a reinsurance program may encourage carriers to enter the market, providing greater stability and more coverage options for people with cancer and cancer survivors.</p> <p>ACS CAN is pleased the waiver extension will not impact the comprehensiveness of coverage in Alaska or impact consumer protections that are crucial for people with cancer and cancer survivors, like the prohibition on pre-existing condition exclusions, the prohibition on lifetime or annual limits, and EHB requirements.</p>	<p>We appreciate the support and have approved the waiver extension.</p>
<p>Joint letter from Advocacy Groups (American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Arthritis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Epilepsy Foundation, Hemophilia Federation of</p>	<p>The advocacy groups support approval of Alaska's waiver extension application. A strong, robust marketplace is essential for individuals with serious, acute, and chronic health conditions to access comprehensive coverage. Alaska's reinsurance program is an important tool to stabilize the marketplace and help issuers cover high-cost claims, which keeps premiums affordable and prevents them from rising. Alaska's reinsurance program will help</p>	<p>We appreciate the support and have approved the waiver extension.</p>

<p>America, Lupus Foundation of America, Mended Little Hearts, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, National Hemophilia Foundation, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Organization for Rare Disorders, Pulmonary Hypertension Association, and Susan G. Komen)</p>	<p>people with pre-existing conditions obtain affordable and comprehensive coverage, thereby increasing health affordability and equity for Alaskans while strengthening the state's overall health insurance market.</p>	
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