



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation

DIVISION OF INSURANCE

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NOTICE OF HEARING

Docket No. G2026-01

Proposed Amendments to 211 CMR 52.00, Managed Care Consumer Protections and Accreditation of Carriers

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commissioner of Insurance (“Commissioner”) under M.G.L. c. 176O §§ 2 and 17, a public hearing will be held on February 19, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. to hear comments on proposed amendments to 211 CMR 52.00. The hearing will be held virtually using TEAMS, a digital meeting program. The proposed amendments are posted and available for inspection on the Division’s website: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/division-of-insurance-public-hearings>.

The purposes of the proposed amendments are to standardize and streamline health insurers’ prior authorization practices, to enhance consistency and predictability for consumers, to address unnecessary prior authorizations, and to reduce administrative costs in the health care system. The matter has been designated as Docket No. G2026-01. Any person requesting to comment orally on the proposed amendments at the virtual hearing must submit to doidocket.mailbox@mass.gov a Notice of Intent to Comment no later than February 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Any other person requesting to attend the hearing must register at doidocket.mailbox@mass.gov no later than 12:00 p.m. on February 18, 2026. All notices or requests must include the person’s name, telephone number and email address. An email with instructions for joining the hearing will be sent by 5:00 p.m. on February 18, 2026.

Any person who wishes to submit written comment on the proposed regulations may send a statement by electronic mail to doidocket.mailbox@mass.gov no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on February 19, 2026. Post-hearing written comments may be submitted by electronic mail no later than February 26, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. or such other date as ordered by the presiding officer. Notices and written statements must refer to DOI Docket No. G2026-01.

January 16, 2026

Michael T. Caljouw
Commissioner of Insurance

Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No: 211 CMR 52, Managed Care Consumer Protections and Accreditation of Carriers

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: 0

- **Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective?**
(Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)
This regulation was written in a performance standard manner where appropriate.
- **Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?**
No. There are no duplicate or conflicting regulations.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Is the regulation likely to deter the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry. This regulation will not deter the formation of small businesses.
- **Is the regulation likely to encourage the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry. This regulation is unlikely to encourage the formation of small businesses.
- **Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.
- **Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry. This regulation was written with performance standards in mind when appropriate.
- **Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?**
No small businesses were identified to be included in the regulated industry.