



State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER TWENTY

WHEREAS, Iowa administers a variety of public assistance programs in coordination with the federal government, including Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Women, Infants and Children (WIC), through the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”);

WHEREAS, Iowans deserve accountability and efficiency in all programs funded by state and federal taxpayers, including Medicaid;

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2025, President Trump issued a memorandum to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) directing appropriate action be taken to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicaid;

WHEREAS, the CMS memo indicates that the Trump Administration has been relentlessly committed to rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse in government programs to preserve and protect such programs for those who rely most on them;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2026, President Trump issued Executive Order 14395 creating a federal Task Force to Eliminate Fraud, chaired by Vice President JD Vance addressed Medicaid waste, fraud and abuse and declared that fraud and mismanagement in these programs constitutes theft of the hard-earned tax dollars from Americans paying into these programs, and of the benefits owed to Americans who need them; and the stated mission was to coordinate anti-fraud efforts across federal benefit programs, including Medicaid with priorities include:

- Strengthening eligibility verification
- Expanding pre-payment controls
- Identifying high-risk fraud patterns
- Improving data sharing among agencies and
- Targeting organized fraud schemes and networks;

WHEREAS, in April 2026, CMS sent a letter asking all state Medicaid programs to “swiftly revalidate” Medicaid providers at high risk of “waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption” within 2 years;

WHEREAS, in May 2026, CMS announced the HHS Office of the Inspector General (HHS-OIG) would be initiating a review of every state’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) before its next annual recertification;

WHEREAS, On May 13, 2026, CMS imposed a nationwide six-month moratorium on new Medicare enrollment for Home Health Agencies (HHAs and hospices which applies to new enrollment applications, applies to certain changes in majority ownership that require a new enrollment, does not affect currently enrolled providers and can be extended in additional six-month increments if CMS determines it is necessary;

WHEREAS, CMS has stated the purpose of these actions is to stop new entities from entering sectors it considers particularly vulnerable to fraud while investigators review existing providers and claims patterns;

WHEREAS, CMS has asked states to adopt the moratorium and Iowa has done so;

WHEREAS, as Governor, I share the President's concerns and want to make every effort to eliminate Medicaid fraud, waste and abuse in Iowa so that Medicaid funds are used for Iowans in need who qualify for benefits; and

WHEREAS, a Medicaid fraud elimination task force would assist that effort by focusing resources to eliminate fraud, waste and abuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIMBERLY K. REYNOLDS, Governor of the State of Iowa, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of Iowa do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** the following:

ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION

- I. Medicaid Fraud Elimination Task Force Established: the Governor's Medicaid Fraud Elimination Task Force is hereby established. The task force shall consist of eleven (11) members appointed by the Governor. The members are:
 - (a) Attorney General or designated representative from the Attorney General's Office ("AG Office");
 - (b) Principal Deputy Director of the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS");
 - (c) Director of Iowa Medicaid;
 - (d) Director of Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing;
 - (e) Director of Iowa's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit;
 - (f) Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety;
 - (g) Director of the Department of Management;
 - (h) Designated representative from the Office of the Governor; and
 - (i) One member from each of Iowa's managed care organizations: Wellpoint Iowa, Iowa Total Care, and Molina Healthcare of Iowa.
- II. Chairperson: the Attorney General or designated representative shall serve as chairperson and preside over task force meetings. The Principal Deputy Director of the Department of Health and Human Services shall serve as vice-chairperson in the absence of the chairperson.
- III. Meetings: the task force shall hold its first meeting no later than July 17, 2026, and at that meeting shall set a schedule for future meetings.
- IV. Service as Members: each appointed member of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor without compensation.
- V. Staffing and Support: the AG Office and HHS shall provide staffing and administration assistance to the task force, as they deem necessary. The task force cannot enter into any contracts nor expend any public moneys.

MISSION

- I. The Medicaid Fraud Elimination Task Force shall focus on collaborative and innovative strategies to prevent and combat fraud, abuse and waste by prioritizing the following mission objectives:
 - A. Strengthen Federal Alignment: continue to cooperate with CMS and federal program integrity initiatives and align with federal actions to suspend enrollment of new high-risk providers;
 - B. Increase Fraud Awareness: promote Medicaid fraud reporting resources and public accountability, including increased public awareness and incentives for fraud reporting that are available under Iowa law.
 - C. Invest in Program Integrity Technology: establish a program Integrity Technology Fund capitalized through recovered funds.
 - D. Support MCO Provider Network Management.
 - E. Establish Integrity Quality Initiative and Applied Behavioral Analysis (“ABA”) Center of Excellence: focus on high-risk services, including ABA therapy, along with electronic visit verification.
 - F. Enhance Methods for Members of the Public to Report Suspected Medicaid Fraud.

RECOMMENDATIONS-REPORT

- I. Recommendations: the task force shall make recommendations to the Governor regarding:
 - A. A comprehensive statewide strategy to eliminate Medicaid fraud, waste, and abuse based on the prioritized mission objectives; and
 - B. Leveraging federal funding resources to assist Iowa’s Medicaid Fraud Control Units (“MFCU”) and examination of a more effective and efficient manner to structure Iowa’s MFCU operations.
- II. Final Report: no later than **120 days** after the effective date of this order, the task force shall submit a final report to the Governor.

IMPLEMENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

- I. All departments, agencies, boards, commissions, or other political subdivisions of any state and local governments shall cooperate fully with requests made by the task force. The task force may seek the expertise and services of individuals and entities outside of its membership for research, advice, and other needs, as necessary or appropriate, to accomplish its mission.
- II. All work of the task force shall be done in a manner consistent with laws and regulations of the State of Iowa, and of the laws and regulations of the United States of America.
- III. This Executive Order shall be interpreted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and shall not supersede any laws or regulations in place as of its effective date. If any provision of this Executive Order is found to be invalid, unenforceable, or otherwise contrary to applicable law, then the remaining provisions of this Executive Order, as applied to any person or circumstance, shall continue in full force and effect, and shall not be affected by such finding of invalidity or unenforceability.
- IV. This Executive Order does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural enforceable at law or in equity, by any party against the State of Iowa, its departments, agencies, or political subdivisions, or its officers, employees, agents, or any other persons.

- V. This Executive Order shall apply prospectively only as of its effective date.
- VI. This Executive Order shall expire upon the submission of the final report to the Governor unless extended, in writing, by the Governor.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE
HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND
CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE
OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED AT DES MOINES,
IOWA THIS FIRST DAY OF JULY IN THE
YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND
TWENTY-SIX

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kim Reynolds", written over a horizontal line.

KIMBERLY K. REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul D. Pate", written over a horizontal line.

PAUL D. PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE