

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop AR-21-55
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



March 4, 2020

Luz E. Cruz-Romero
Executive Director, Puerto Rico Medicaid Program
Department of Health
P.O. Box 70184
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-8184

Dear Ms. Luz E. Cruz-Romero:

I am writing in regard to H.R. 1856¹, the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020. Subtitle B, Section 202 of H.R. 1856 requires the agency responsible for the administration of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Medicaid program under title XIX to designate an officer to serve as the Program Integrity Lead. H.R. 1856 specifies that the designated person who will serve as the Program Integrity Lead must be someone other than the director of the agency.

In order to ensure compliance with this provision of H.R. 1856, CMS requests that the designated Program Integrity Lead be identified as soon as possible, but no later than May 20, 2020, so as not to exceed the six-month Appropriations Bill requirement for the establishment of this designated person by June 20, 2020. Failure to meet this requirement by June 20, 2020 could result in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Medicaid program experiencing a reduction in the Federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) outlined in H.R. 1856.

CMS staff will be in touch with you shortly to arrange a meeting to discuss with the agency its plan for the establishment of a Program Integrity Lead within the territory. In the interim, if you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact Laurie Battaglia, Director, Division of State Program Integrity at 410-786-5317 or laurie.battaglia@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen McGinty".

Kathleen McGinty, J.D.
Acting Director, Investigations and Audits Group
Center for Program Integrity

Cc: Jackie Glaze, Acting Director MCOG, CMCS

¹ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1865/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr1865%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=1>