



# **Medicaid Review Panel**

**September 3, 2025**

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IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH & WELFARE



# Medicaid Budget Update



- DHW 2026 budget request reflected 8% growth from prior fiscal year
- Actual growth trending 19%
  - Over 97% of growth attributed to traditional Medicaid population and not expansion
- DHW has been monitoring this growth trend and evaluating the need to address prior to session in January and available options
- Executive Order to withhold 3% from agency budgets
- Medicaid issued information release the following week concerning 4% rate reduction
  - Higher than 3% due to certain expenditures being exempt
- Public Comment currently underway over the next month



# Access Monitoring



- DHW will need to submit for CMS approval
  - Public comments submitted and DHW responses
  - Access analysis
  - Monitoring plan
- Reviewing access analyses from other states that recently reduced rates (Washington, North Carolina)
- Plan to expand current Healthy Connections/Primary Care tracking tools for other services



# Rural Health Transformation Program



- \$50 billion awarded across 5 years (half across all states who apply and are approved; the other half will be awarded by how rural a state is)
- States must submit application outlining at least 3 priority areas from menu of 9 outlined categories (see next slide)
- Currently unclear how much funding each state is allowed to apply for
- Applications made available by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid mid-September 2025
  - Due by early November 2025
  - Awards made to states late December 2025



Supporting access to OUD, SUD, and mental health services.

Provide payments to health care providers for the provision of health care items or services

Promote consumer-facing, technology-driven solutions for the prevention and management of chronic diseases

Provide training and TA for the development and adoption of technology enabled solutions that improve care delivery in rural hospitals, including remote monitoring, robotics, AI, etc.

Developing projects that support innovative models of care, including VBP and APMs

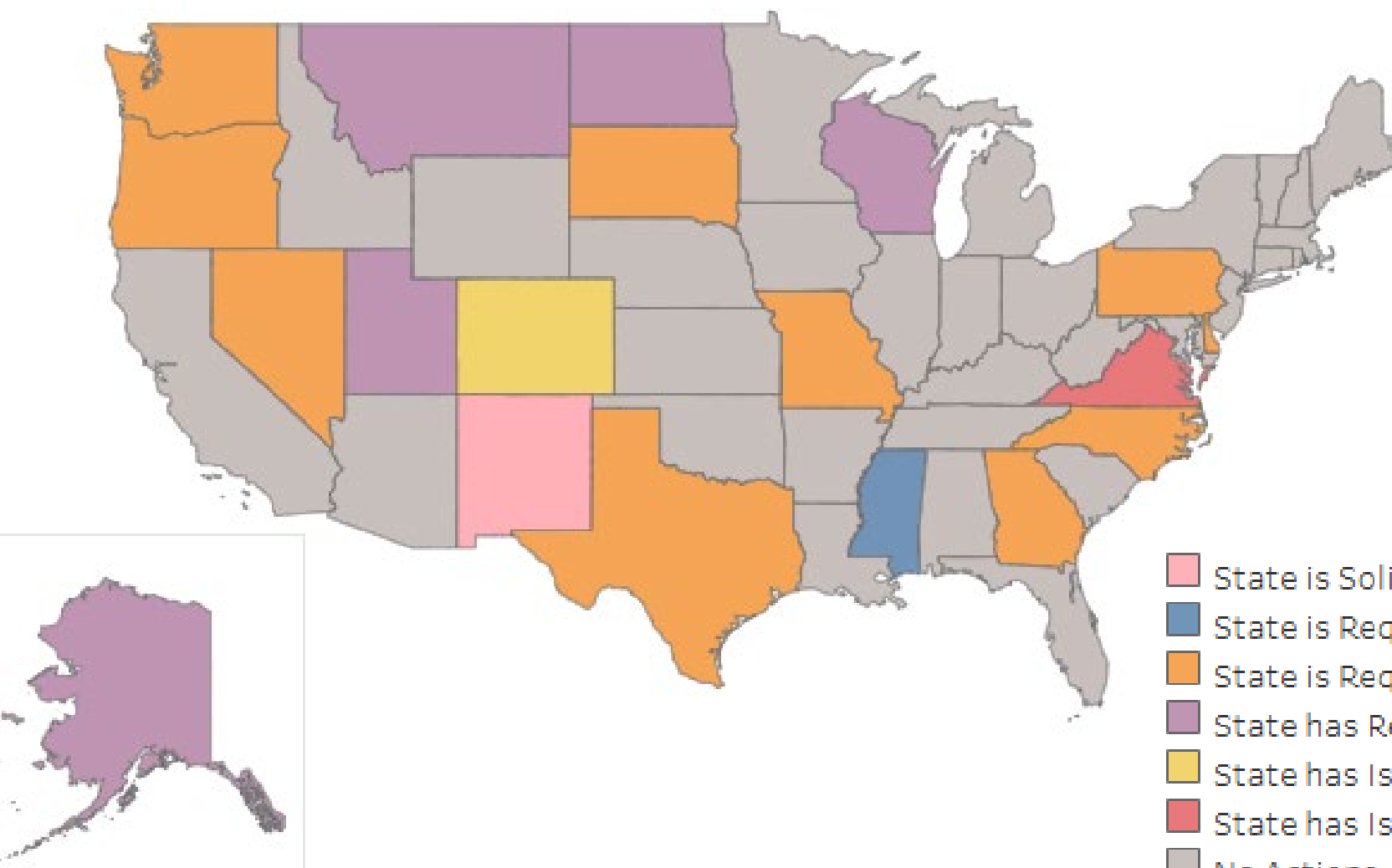
Providing TA, software, and hardware for significant information technology advances

Assisting rural communities to right size their health care delivery systems by identifying needed preventative, ambulatory, pre-hospital, emergency, acute inpatient care, outpatient care, and post-acute care service lines

Promote evidence-based interventions to improve prevention and chronic disease management

Recruiting and retaining clinical workforce talent to rural areas

# States Soliciting Public Input or Consultant



- State is Soliciting a Consultant
- State is Requesting Public Input and Soliciting a Consultant
- State is Requesting Public Input
- State has Released a Request for Information (RFI)
- State has Issued an Explainer
- State has Issued an Executive Directive
- No Actions



- Solicit stakeholder input via public comment survey posted to DHW website by 9/5 (or earlier). Posted through 9/30.
- Key parameters
  - Sustained and efficient investments (will not require state or federal funds ongoing)
  - Must be aligned with current legislative and executive actions
  - Innovative efforts that are not already funded by the state or budgeted for by an organization
  - Focus on lawfully present pregnant women and children; elderly; and disabled populations in truly rural communities
  - Funding cannot supplant existing funding sources or in lieu of other sources of federal funds



- Following public input, DHW will gather and summarize feedback
  - Identify prioritized areas (from 9 outlined categories) and recurring themes or proposals
  - Confirm alignment with key parameters and any federal requirements
  - Schedule meetings on specific proposals as needed
- Early October, share public comment information with drafted proposal with Medicaid Review Panel, Health & Welfare Committees, and JFAC Committee
  - Committees to provide feedback by mid-October 2025
- Finalize application and submit by early November 2025
- Include federal funds authority as part of budget request