Arkansas Insurance Department

**Mike Pickens** 

Commissioner



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BULLETIN NO. 1-2004

**Mike Huckabee** 

Governor

| TO:      | ALL LICENSED DISABILITY INSURERS, HEALTH MAINENTANCE ORGANIZATIONS,<br>HOSPITAL MEDICAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS, REGISTERED INDEPENDENT<br>REVIEW ORGANIZATIONS, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE<br>COMMISSIONERS, TRADE ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES |
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| FROM:    | ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT  |
| SUBJECT: | REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER REGULATION 76, "ARKANSAS EXTERNAL REVIEW REGULATION   |
| DATE:    | January 21, 2004   |

Rule and Regulation 76, "Arkansas External Review Regulation," allows persons covered under health insurance plans to appeal denials of their claims to an independent review organization. Section 14 of Regulation 76 requires independent review organizations ("IROs") and health carriers to provide the Department with an annual report regarding external review. The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide IROs and health carriers with specific reporting requirements.

The annual reports are due on March 1<sup>st</sup> annually. The Department will not specify or require a particular form to be used for reporting. IROs and health carrier may simply send a letter that provides the required information outlined in Section 14. The reports should be addressed as follows:

Arkansas Insurance Department Associate Counsel Sara Farris 1200 West Third Street Little Rock, AR 72201-1904

If you have any questions regarding this Bulletin or Regulation 76, please contact Associate Counsel Sara Farris at 501-371-2820 for <u>sara.farris@mail.state.ar.us</u>.

This Bulletin shall take effect when signed by the Commissioner.

(signed by Mike Pickens)\_\_\_\_\_ MIKE PICKENS

(January 21, 2004)\_\_\_\_\_ DATE