

## **An HHSC Policy Flexibility for Member State Fair Hearings ends on May 11, 2023**

Dear Member,

In January 2020, the federal government declared a public health emergency (PHE) in response to COVID-19. Under the PHE, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) provided certain flexibilities, including allowing Medicaid members more time to request a fair hearing. Instead of 120 days to request a fair hearing after the internal MCO appeal, members were given up to 150 days to request a fair hearing with HHSC during the PHE.

HHSC will be ending this flexibility on May 11, 2023.

Starting on May 12, 2023, if you receive a “Member Notice of MCO Internal Appeal Decision” and want to appeal it, you must file your request for a fair hearing with or without an external medical review no more than 120 calendar days from the date the notice is mailed. State fair hearing requests filed past this deadline may not be reviewed. If you have any questions, please reach out to your health plan representative at (866) 856-8699, Monday-Friday 8 am-8pm, local time.