

Board members; that is, the Secretary of Defense shall appoint subcommittee members even if the member in question is already a Board member. Subcommittee members, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, may serve a term of service on the subcommittee of two years; however, no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the subcommittee.

With the exception of travel and per diem for official travel, subcommittee members shall serve without compensation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jim Freeman, Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, 703-692-5952.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Board shall meet at the call of the Board's Designated Federal Officer, in consultation with the Chairperson. The Board shall meet at least semi-annually.

In addition, the Designated Federal Officer is required to be in attendance at all Board and subcommittee meetings for the entire duration of each and every meeting; however, in the absence of the Designated Federal Officer, the Alternate Designated Federal Officer shall attend the entire duration of the Board or subcommittee meeting.

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.105(j) and 102-3.140, the public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the Inland Waterways Users Board membership about the Board's mission and functions. Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the Inland Waterways Users Board.

All written statements shall be submitted to the Designated Federal Officer for the Inland Waterways Users Board, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration. Contact information for the Inland Waterways Users Board's Designated Federal Officer can be obtained from the GSA's FACA Database—<https://www.fido.gov/facadatabase/public.asp>.

The Designated Federal Officer, pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150, will announce planned meetings of the Inland Waterways Users Board. The Designated Federal Officer, at that time, may provide additional guidance on the submission of written statements that are in response to the stated agenda for the planned meeting in question.

Dated: April 12, 2012.

**Aaron Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Termination of Provider Reimbursement Demonstration Project for the State of Alaska

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of demonstration termination.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides a termination of the demonstration project in the State of Alaska for individual provider payment rates. Under the demonstration, payment rates for physicians and other non-institutional individual professional providers in the State of Alaska have been set at a rate higher than the Medicare rate. The goal of the demonstration was to determine at what rate payment would need to be set in order to encourage higher participation in the TRICARE program by providers in Alaska.

**DATES:** The demonstration regarding payment rates for physicians and other non-institutional providers is terminated effective May 17, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** TRICARE Management Activity (TMA), Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Branch, 16401 East Centretech Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011-9066.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Glenn J. Corn, TRICARE Management Activity, Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Branch, telephone (303) 676-3566.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On November 20, 2006 (71 FR 67113), DoD published a Notice of a TRICARE demonstration project for the State of Alaska, with an effective date of January 1, 2007. The demonstration set payment rates for physicians and other non-institutional individual professional providers in the State of Alaska at a rate higher than the Medicare rate in order to determine if more individual providers would participate in the TRICARE program. The demonstration was effective January 1, 2007 for a period of three years, ending on December 31, 2009. The demonstration was extended twice. On December 18, 2009 (74 FR 67179), DoD published a Notice of demonstration extension that extended the demonstration through December 31, 2010, and on July 8, 2010

(75 FR 39213), DoD published a Notice of demonstration extension that extended the demonstration through December 31, 2012.

An analysis of the effectiveness of the demonstration was conducted and it showed an increase in provider participation. This increased participation opened access to local specialty care that had previously been severely impaired, and it decreased the overall cost of health care by reducing the travel costs incurred by the Department for Prime beneficiaries who had been forced to travel long distances to receive care outside of Alaska. The demonstration also showed that each geographic area in Alaska had increased participation using the same "multiplier" of the Medicare rate. Thus in order to preserve the successes made through the demonstration project in improving provider access and to keep the CHAMPUS Maximum Allowable Charge rates in relative proportion with the demonstration rates, the Department has determined that it can use its current authority under Title 10, United States Code, section 1079(h)(5) to provide a state-wide locality based reimbursement waiver without requesting additional statutory or regulatory authority for the State of Alaska. A state-wide locality based waiver was approved by the Director of TMA under current authority (Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, section 199.14(j)(1)(iv)(D)) on September 15, 2011, and thus the need for this demonstration has ceased. This state-wide locality based reimbursement waiver allows the higher individual provider payment rates associated with the demonstration project.

Dated: March 30, 2012.

**Patricia Toppings,**

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board; Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board.

**ACTION:** Meeting notice.

**SUMMARY:** Due to difficulties, beyond the control of the U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board or its Designated Federal Officer, the Board was unable to file a **Federal Register** notice for the