Media Release

For Immediate Release   **Contact: Katie Geer**
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The SCDOI's Response to COVID-19

COLUMBIA, SC – The South Carolina Department of Insurance (SCDOI) is working closely with the health insurance industry to ensure South Carolinians have access to testing and related treatment when it comes to COVID-19, better known as the Coronavirus. The Department is actively engaged with assisting companies and monitoring their response to consumers.

"I am pleased to announce that South Carolina's health insurance companies are waiving the cost sharing for diagnostic testing to help identify our citizens that have been exposed to the Coronavirus," said Director of the SCDOI, Ray Farmer. "The costs of testing should not be a barrier to testing for those with health insurance. Many companies have decided to also waive cost sharing for associated services, such as your health care provider visit for a Coronavirus test. This is a great example of companies putting their customer's access to care ahead of everything else."

Many health insurance companies are also working to ensure access to prescription drugs and encouraging people to take advantage of telehealth care. Telehealth care is healthcare provided through a digital platform, which can be life saving for those who are immunocompromised or at high-risk if exposed to illnesses, like COVID-19 or the flu.

The SCDOI has a dedicated page on our website that focuses on insurance industry developments in South Carolina pertaining to COVID-19. Consumers should reach out to their insurance company directly with questions about coverage. If consumers encounter issues, please give the SCDOI's Office of Consumer Services a call at 803-737-6180 or email concerns to consumers@doi.sc.gov.

For the latest health and safety developments on COVID-19, please visit the Centers for Disease Control.