BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer the Nebraska Telehealth Program.	) Application No. NUSF-57) Progression Order No. 6)) ORDER EXTENDING FILING) DEADLINE)) Entered: March 30, 2021

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 5, 2021 the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) entered an Order in the above-captioned docket making significant modifications to its statewide Telehealth program. In its January 5, 2021 Order, the Commission adopted a proposal which in large part incorporated recent changes made by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to its Rural Healthcare Program (RHC). The Commission also established deadlines for filing applications with the Commission for Telehealth program funding in an effort to correspond to the FCC's filing window.

On February 12, 2021, the FCC extended the deadline for the 2021 application filing window for the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program until June 1, 2021. In doing so, the FCC found that an extension was necessary in light of the ongoing disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to program participants, the emergence of the more contagious new COVID-19 variants, and the overwhelming burden placed on health care providers to administer COVID-19 testing and vaccines.

Accordingly, the Commission finds it appropriate to adjust our January 5, 2021 Order findings so that the application deadline corresponds with the filing window set by the FCC. For FY2021, the filing window should be revised to close on June 15, 2021.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that filing window for the Telehealth program be, and is hereby, extended to June 15, 2021 as provided herein.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 30th day of March, 2021.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST: