



DVA DENTAL LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT UPDATE

Dear RPEA Members,

On April 17, 2019, the Court entered a ruling in the DVA Dental lawsuit entirely favorable to RPEA.

The Court ruled that the State had diminished retiree dental benefits when it imposed the Moda dental plan in 2014. The Court ordered the Division of Retirement & Benefits (DRB) to immediately find an appropriate remedy for the diminishments to the Dental plan.

RPEA has requested a meeting with the DRB to discuss possible remedies and options suggested by the Court, but that request has been ignored.

Instead, the DRB has asked the Court for a stay of the ruling and remedy until the beginning of 2020.

RPEA believes this is unacceptable. However, it has agreed to a 3 month stay with the conditions that the DRB immediately remove all frequency limits for services, such as cleanings, x-rays and denture replacement, and to remove the 25% penalty for those retirees living in Alaska who use an out-of-network dentist.

Because of the DRB's inability to comply with the Court ruling and it's request for a stay of the ruling until 2020, RPEA scheduled a hearing for August 8th before Judge Aarseth, the judge who issued the ruling, requesting further direction to DRB about complying with the ruling and the remedy.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Sharon Hoffbeck
President
Retired Public Employees of Alaska

Retired Public Employees of Alaska | 3310 Arctic Blvd, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 274-1703

[Unsubscribe sharonhoffbeck@gmail.com](mailto:sharonhoffbeck@gmail.com)

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