

February 27, 2012

Rep. Bob Lynn
Alaska State Capitol
120 4th Street, Room 108
Juneau, AK, 99801

Dear Rep. Lynn,

I believe the HB 275 needs to be passed so that those who have retired from State service before they have reached age 65 and are forced into Medicare can get a colonoscopy. This age group between 55, for tier 1, and 65 are of the highest risk of contracting colon cancer.

As it is with Alaska Care now we must either have symptoms of colon cancer or pay for the procedure out of pocket which being retired we cannot afford. It seems that it would better serve both the State of Alaska and the retirees to have the test done and covered by insurance than to wait until the retiree must be treated for cancer. Prevention is very inexpensive if you compare the cost of a colonoscopy to treating a person once they have colon cancer.

Since my wife and I currently use generic drugs whenever possible with no ill effects I don't see a problem in having the majority of retirees switch to generic drugs when possible in order to keep the cost of our health care down.

Sincerely,

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