HOUSE BILL NO. 176

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES FANSLER, Gara

Introduced: 3/14/17
Referred: Health and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to medical assistance reimbursement for ground emergency medical transportation services; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 47.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 47.07.085. Supplemental reimbursement for ground emergency medical transportation services. (a) The department shall develop a program to provide supplemental reimbursement to eligible ground emergency medical transportation service providers for the cost of providing services to medical assistance recipients. The amount of the supplemental reimbursement must be equal to the amount of federal financial participation that the department receives as reimbursement for the provider's cost for the ground emergency medical transportation services, less any administrative expenses. Under the program, the department shall use intergovernmental transfers, or certified public expenditures, or both, for the nonfederal share of ground emergency medical transportation services that are eligible
for federal financial participation under the medical assistance program.

(b) The amount a provider receives in supplemental reimbursements under the program, when combined with the amount the provider receives from all other sources, including medical assistance reimbursement under the state plan, may not exceed the provider's actual cost for providing ground emergency medical transportation services to medical assistance recipients.

(c) A ground emergency medical transportation service provider is eligible to participate in the program if the provider

(1) is enrolled with the department as a medical assistance provider;

(2) voluntarily enters into an agreement with the department to participate in the program;

(3) is owned or operated by the state, a political subdivision of the state, or a federally recognized tribe or tribal organization;

(4) charges for ground emergency medical transportation services on a fee-for-service or other federally permissible basis; and

(5) certifies that the provider's expenditures for ground emergency medical transportation services qualify for federal financial participation.

(d) The department may charge an administrative fee to a provider who participates in the program to cover the department's costs for administering the program. The administrative fee may not exceed 20 percent of a provider's cost for providing ground emergency medical transportation services.

(e) If the United States Department of Health and Human Services revokes approval of the program, the department shall provide notice to the legislature. The department shall submit written notice to the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives as early as possible after the United States Department of Health and Human Services expresses its intent to revoke approval of the program.

(f) Supplemental reimbursement payments are subject to appropriation.

(g) In this section,

(1) "program" means the supplemental reimbursement program developed by the department under this section;

(2) "provider" means an eligible ground emergency medical
transportation service provider;

(3) "state plan" means the state plan for medical assistance coverage
developed under AS 47.07.040.

* Sec. 2. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

MEDICAID STATE PLAN AMENDMENT; NOTICE TO REVISOR OF STATUTES. The Department of Health and Social Services shall amend and submit for federal approval a state plan for medical assistance reimbursement consistent with this Act. The commissioner of health and social services shall certify to the revisor of statutes if all of the provisions of AS 47.07.085, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, are approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

* Sec. 3. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

CONDITIONAL EFFECT. AS 47.07.085, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect only if the commissioner of health and social services certifies to the revisor of statutes under sec. 2 of this Act, on or before November 1, 2018, that all of the provisions added by AS 47.07.085 have been approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

* Sec. 4. If AS 47.07.085, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect, it takes effect on the day after the date the commissioner of health and social services makes a certification to the revisor of statutes under sec. 2 of this Act.