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March 23, 2010

The Honorable Wes Keller, Co-Chair
House Health and Social Services Committee
Alaska Capitol, Room 13
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Bob Herron, Co-Chair
House Health and Social Services Committee
Alaska Capitol, Room 411
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 260 (Keller)—Support

Dear Co-Chairs Keller and Herron:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House Health and Social Services Committee to support HB 260, authored by Co-Chair Keller and co-sponsored by Representative Tuck.

HB 260 recognizes the importance of prevention for Medicaid beneficiaries. This is not only good health policy but wise fiscal policy.

Over the past few years, Medicare has increased the number and type of preventive services it will pay for. Congress and the federal government have done this because it makes good fiscal sense. HB 260 would allow Alaska's Medicaid program to do likewise.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on HB 260.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
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586-3637 (voice)
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Representative Tammie Wilson Representative Sharon Cissna
Representative Bob Lynn Representative Lindsey Holmes
Representative Paul Seaton