

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Session

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SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 135-AN ACT EXTENDING THE TERMINATION OF THE OF THE ALASKA HEALTH CARE COMMISSION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

SB 135 extends the sunset of the Alaska Health Care Commission until June 30, 2017. The Legislative Auditor has concluded that the Alaska Health Care Commission is serving the public's interest and should continue its statutory obligation by continuing to develop a statewide health care plan.

The Commission serves the public interest by providing recommendations for and fosters the development of a statewide plan to address the quality, accessibility and availability of health care for all citizens of the state. The framework for the Alaska Health Care Commission describes a vision, identifies core strategies, and makes various policy recommendations for improving health care.

The Commission consists of 14 members; 11 are voting members, and 3 are non-voting ex-officio members representing the Alaska House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Office of the Governor. The 11 voting members, appointed by the governor, are: the State's chief medical officer, one state-licensed health care provider, one health care provider, one public member, and 7 members representing various Alaskan health care industry stakeholders.

The Commission has consistently proven to be efficient and effective in its progress to develop a strategic framework for improving statewide health care and I ask for your support in the passage of this bill.