

Representative Mia Costello Alaska State Legislature

Explanation of Changes CS for HB 134 W.O. 28-LS0303\T

"An Act requiring Medicaid payment for medication compliance packaging, delivery , and dispensing services of a prescription for specified recipients; and providing for an effective date."

Several changes were made to HB 134 version T by the sponsor after working with the Department of Health and Social Services. In general, several parts of the bill were reorganized so as not to create unintended costs in the department.

Other than a reorganization of parts, the only major change to HB 134 in version T is the deletion of any reference to the department paying for the shipping costs of medication compliance packaging.

These changes were made in an effort to lessen the fiscal impact HB 134 would have on the Department of Health and Social Services while maintaining the sponsor's intent for this bill.

In addition to changes made by the sponsor the Department of Health and Social Services proposed, and is in the final process of adopting, new regulations regarding pharmacy reimbursement rates. These regulations, 7 AAC 105, 120, 145, 160, will in effect provide a higher reimbursement rate for pharmacies providing medication compliance packaging under Medicaid to qualified recipients.

It is the sponsor's belief that these new regulations and the changes made to HB 134 by version T will result in a significantly lowered fiscal impact of this legislation.

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