

IS SUE ALERT

The Jeffersonian Project has significant concerns regarding SB 169, which would attempt to pass-through a federal vaccine discount intended for vulnerable children to insurers in an effort to provide vaccines for adult Alaskans.

While it makes sense for states to take advantage of economies of scale in attempting to negotiate discounts, state legislators should consider tradeoffs, including unintended consequences. Leveraging an existing federal program intended to serve children in order to reduce prices for adult vaccines runs contrary to free market and limited government principles and undermines the intent of the federal safety-net program.

Expanding access to and utilization of vaccines is a goal shared by many. Unfortunately, attempting to do so using the means outlined in SB 169 gives cause for concern.

The Jeffersonian Project is the 501(c)4 affiliate of the American Legislative Exchange Council.