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**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 134( )**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE COSTELLO**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

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

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

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

6 **Sec. 47.07.031. Scheduled unit dose prescription drug dispensing and**  
7 **transportation services.** (a) In addition to the services provided for under  
8 AS 47.07.030, the department shall pay a fee established under this section to a  
9 qualified pharmacy for dispensing and transportation services for a prescription that  
10 requires scheduled unit doses in medication compliance packaging for the purpose of  
11 assisting a medical assistance recipient who is eligible under regulations adopted by  
12 the department to adhere to a difficult dosing regimen.

13 (b) The department shall establish a fee for dispensing services of a  
14 prescription that requires medication compliance packaging under (a) of this section.

The fee shall reimburse a qualified pharmacy for the following dispensing services if the services are not otherwise reimbursed under this chapter:

(1) providing pharmaceutical care by consolidating prescriptions for purposes of reporting to the prescriber on prescription compliance;

(2) creation and delivery of medication compliance packaging by trained personnel for the interval specified on the prescription;

(3) reviewing and reassessing all returned medication compliance packaging for compliance and alignment with the medication plan;

(4) a licensed clinical pharmacist's remaining on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week for consultation, for addressing medication emergencies, and for making urgent clinically critical changes to a medication plan;

(5) offering quarterly one-on-one review with a recipient or the recipient's representative of a recipient's complete medication profile and medication administration record, including review of compliance and identification of potential and actual medication problems;

(6) reporting to the prescriber patient compliance, polypharmacy, or other issues related to the recipient's medication at least quarterly; and

(7) local delivery costs.

(c) In addition to a dispensing fee paid under (b) of this section, if local delivery is not available, the department shall pay the actual cost of the most cost-effective method of transporting and packaging the medication based on the location of the recipient and the special handling, if any, required for the medication.

(d) To the extent feasible, a qualified pharmacy may include multiple medications in medication compliance packaging for a recipient if the prescription for at least one of the medications requires medication compliance packaging. However, a dispensing fee established under (b) and (c) of this section may be paid only for the prescription that requires medication compliance packaging.

(e) A pharmacy is qualified to dispense a prescription in medication compliance packaging for payment under this section if the pharmacy is a provider of services under the medical assistance program established under this chapter and is capable of providing the dispensing services described in (b)(1) - (7) and (c) of this

1 section.

2 (f) In this section,

3 (1) "medication compliance packaging" means a package containing a  
4 specified quantity of one or more prescription medications that have been divided by a  
5 provider into unit doses to be taken over a specified period according to a prescription  
6 issued by an authorized health care provider and that requires specialized dispensing  
7 services;

8 (2) "unit dose" means a single dose of a prescription medication  
9 packaged for one-time use that does not include a refill.

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

12 APPROVAL; CONTINGENT EFFECT; NOTICE. (a) The commissioner of health  
13 and social services shall request the approval of the United States Department of Health and  
14 Human Services for implementation of AS 47.07.031, added by sec. 1 of this Act.

15 (b) AS 47.07.031, added by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect only if, and only to the  
16 extent that, implementation of AS 47.07.031 is approved by the United States Department of  
17 Health and Human Services.

18 (c) The commissioner of health and social services shall notify the revisor of statutes  
19 when the United States Department of Health and Human Services approves implementation  
20 of AS 47.07.031.

21 \* **Sec. 3.** If AS 47.07.031, added by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect, it takes effect on the date  
22 that the revisor of statutes receives notice from the commissioner of health and social services  
23 that the United States Department of Health and Human Services has approved  
24 implementation of that section.