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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 units of use 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 units of use in medication compliance packaging for the purpose of
11 assisting to adhere to a specific dosing regimen a medical assistance recipient who is

- 12 (1) residing in a congregate living home, as defined by the department;
13 (2) receiving community-based waiver services;
14 (3) disabled or blind;

1 (4) an adult with a serious mental illness, as defined by the department;
2 (5) a child experiencing a severe emotional disturbance, as defined by
3 the department.

4 (b) The department shall establish a fee for dispensing services of a
5 prescription that requires medication compliance packaging under (a) of this section.
6 The fee shall reimburse a qualified pharmacy for the following dispensing services if
7 the services are not otherwise reimbursed under this chapter:

8 (1) consolidating prescriptions for purposes of reporting to the
9 prescriber on prescription compliance;

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

12 (3) offering quarterly review with a recipient or the recipient's
13 representative of a recipient's complete medication profile and medication
14 administration record, including review of compliance;

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

17 (5) local delivery costs using the most cost-effective method.

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

23 (d) A pharmacy is qualified to dispense a prescription in medication
24 compliance packaging for payment under this section if the pharmacy is a provider of
25 services under the medical assistance program established under this chapter and is
26 capable of providing the dispensing services described in (b)(1) - (5) and (c) of this
27 section.

28 (e) In this section,

29 (1) "medication compliance packaging" means a package containing a
30 specified quantity of one or more prescription medications that have been divided by a
31 provider into units of use to be taken over a specified period according to a

1 prescription issued by an authorized health care provider and that requires specialized
2 dispensing services;

3 (2) "units of use" means a prescription medication packaged in a way
4 that is designed to simplify a medication regimen to improve adherence to a daily
5 therapeutic schedule and that does not include a refill.

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

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

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

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

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