



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of  
Health and Social Services**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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March 18, 2015

Honorable Bert Stedman  
Senate Health & Social Services Committee  
State Capitol, Room 30  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Stedman:

The Department of Health and Social Services respectfully requests a hearing in the Senate Health & Social Services Committee on Senate Bill 78, "An Act relating to medical assistance reform measures; relating to eligibility for medical assistance coverage; relating to medical assistance cost containment measures by the Department of Health and Social Services; and providing for an effective date."

The bill would make technical amendments to AS 47.07.020, related to Medicaid eligibility, and also includes authorizing Medicaid expansion as authorized under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Medicaid expansion and reform are in the best interest of the state, and I appreciate your favorable consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valerie".

Valerie Davidson  
Commissioner

cc: Darwin Peterson, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor