

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel

Senate District N

Sponsor Statement

SB 142 “Insurance for Anti-Cancer Medication”

SB 142 would ensure that both intravenous and orally administered cancer treatments are treated fairly and are equally available to consumers. Patients should not be prohibited from receiving oral cancer treatment due to preferential insurance coverage favoring intravenous forms of treatment. Currently intravenous cancer treatment co-pays are much more generous than the oral cancer treatments, and are not always the most effective option for patients.

This bill also prevents increasing costs for intravenous or injected chemotherapy that are covered under the existing policy or plan, or by reclassifying benefits with respect to anti-cancer medications. This bill asks for parity, or fairness, to the consumer, as they choose the treatment option that best addresses the form of cancer they battle.

I urge you to support this bill that will require equal insurance coverage for anti-cancer medications, both those administered intravenously and those administered orally.

Chair Senate Resources Committee | Vice-Chair Health & Social Services | Vice-Chair Labor & Commerce

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