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Senator Berta Gardner Senate Democratic Leader Senate District I

Sectional Analysis SB 53: An Act Expanding Access to Birth Control

<u>Section 1:</u> Amends AS 21.42 by adding a new section, AS 21.42.427. AS 21.42.427 requires a health care insurer, in the group or individual market, that provides coverage for prescription contraceptives to provide reimbursement for dispensing prescription contraceptives for a 12-month period. AS 21.42.427(b)-(g) contain other related compliances and coverage provisions.

<u>Section 2:</u> Amends AS 47.07.065 by adding new subsections (b)-(d), which require the Department of Health and Social Services to pay for prescription contraceptives intended to last for a 12-month period for eligible recipients of medical assistance, if prescribed to and requested by the recipient, as well as pay for specified related services.

<u>Section 3:</u> Requires the Department of Health and Social Services to amend and submit for federal approval a state plan for medical assistance coverage consistent with sec. 2 of this Act.

Section 4: Provides that sec. 2 of this Act takes effect only if the provisions of sec. 2 of this Act receive federal approval.

<u>Section 5:</u> Provides that if sec. 2 of the Act takes effect, it takes effect the day after the commissioner of health and social services makes certification of federal approval under secs. 3 and 4 of the Act.

Section 6: Except for sec. 5 of this Act, provides for a January 1, 2018 effective date.