

REPRESENTATIVE JUSTIN PARISH

Alaska State Legislature / Juneau, Alaska District 34



Sponsor Statement HJR 20

This resolution urges our United States Congress and the President of the United States to maintain the Medicaid Expansion to cover individual health insurance coverage.

Health care is an essential service for our residents. Health care coverage also benefits employers as healthy employees are more productive. Alaska has the second highest rate of residents without health care in the nation. This expansion has provided coverage to more than 31,000 Alaskans who would otherwise not be covered. As of March 31st, 2017, Alaska has received \$413 million total payments made under the expanded program reducing the number of uninsured people visiting emergency rooms and providing necessary funding for behavioral health treatment and treatment for substance abuse.

I would appreciate your support for this resolution to maintain the federal funding for Medicaid Expansion.