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March 9, 2021

Senator David Wilson, Chair  
Senate Health and Social Services Committee  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB93 Support

Dear Senator David Wilson and Members of the Senate Health & Social Services Committee,

AARP supports the passage of SB93 to establish an All-Payer Claims Database. All-Payer Claims Databases (APCDs) play an important role in promoting health transparency, promotion of quality care, and payment reform. APCDs include medical, pharmacy, dental, eligibility and provider files from both private and public payers and can provide critical information about health care utilization and costs.

With the highest medical cost per capita in the country with the highest medical costs in the world, Alaska has much to gain with improved price transparency and data collection. The Alaska Healthcare Transformation Project in their 2019 *A Roadmap for Reform* stated, "The establishment of an APCD will be key in providing an ongoing and detailed source of information on Alaska's health care marketplace. Current, detailed, and complete data about Alaska's health care marketplace will be critical to developing and comprehensively monitoring policy changes to improve the cost, quality, and access to care in Alaska."

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 24 states now have APCDs, and the Federal Government is providing \$2.5M grants to states to start or improve APCDs under the 2020 Surprise Medical Billing Law.

On behalf of the fastest growing senior population in the nation and for the benefit of all Alaskans, AARP Alaska urges your support and action to move and pass SB93 to establish an All Payer Claims Database.

Respectfully,  
Marge Stoneking  
Advocacy Director, AARP Alaska

