



# LAWS OF ALASKA

**2004**

**Source**

HB 500(title am)

**Chapter No.**

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**AN ACT**

Including the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations under the definition of medical review organizations.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



## AN ACT

1 Including the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations under the  
2 definition of medical review organizations.

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4 \* **Section 1.** AS 18.23.070(5) is amended to read:

5 (5) "review organization" means

6 (A) a hospital governing body or a committee whose  
7 membership is limited to health care providers and administrative staff, except  
8 where otherwise provided for by state or federal law, and that is established by  
9 a hospital, by a clinic, by one or more state or local associations of health care  
10 providers, by an organization of health care providers from a particular area or  
11 medical institution, or by a professional standards review organization  
12 established under 42 U.S.C. 1320c-1, to gather and review information relating  
13 to the care and treatment of patients for the purposes of

14 (i) evaluating and improving the quality of health care

1 rendered in the area or medical institution;

2 (ii) reducing morbidity or mortality;

3 (iii) obtaining and disseminating statistics and  
4 information relative to the treatment and prevention of diseases, illness,  
5 and injuries;

6 (iv) developing and publishing guidelines showing the  
7 norms of health care in the area or medical institution;

8 (v) developing and publishing guidelines designed to  
9 keep the cost of health care within reasonable bounds;

10 (vi) reviewing the quality or cost of health care services  
11 provided to enrollees of health maintenance organizations;

12 (vii) acting as a professional standards review  
13 organization under 42 U.S.C. 1320c;

14 (viii) reviewing, ruling on, or advising on controversies,  
15 disputes, or questions between a health insurance carrier or health  
16 maintenance organization and one or more of its insured or enrollees;  
17 between a professional licensing board, acting under its powers of  
18 discipline or license revocation or suspension, and a health care  
19 provider licensed by it when the matter is referred to a review  
20 organization by the professional licensing board; between a health care  
21 provider and the provider's patients concerning diagnosis, treatment, or  
22 care, or a charge or fee; between a health care provider and a health  
23 insurance carrier or health maintenance organization concerning a  
24 charge or fee for health care services provided to an insured or enrollee;  
25 or between a health care provider or the provider's patients and the  
26 federal or a state or local government, or an agency of the federal or a  
27 state or local government;

28 (ix) acting on the recommendation of a credential  
29 review committee or a grievance committee;

30 (B) the State Medical Board established by AS 08.64.010;

31 (C) a committee established by the commissioner of health and

1 social services and approved by the State Medical Board to review public  
2 health issues regarding morbidity or mortality; at least 75 percent of the  
3 committee members must be health care providers;

4 **(D) the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare**  
5 **Organizations (JCAHO).**