

State of Alaska
Department of Health
FY2026 Childcare Updates
House Labor and Commerce Committee

Heidi Hedberg, Commissioner

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Senate Bill 95 Updates



Senate Bill 95

- Increased eligibility for families to 105% SMI
- Family copay capped at 7% of family income
- Support businesses in developing on-site child care
- Authority to use alternative “Cost of Care” models
- Grants for high quality and performance

Work Underway

- Regulations nearing public comment
- Employer Support Program
- Dedicated staff
- Intersection with Rural Health Transformation



Child Care Grant Redesign



Child Care Grant (\$5.9m)

- Increased funding provides sustainability
- Base grant formula increased
- Pilot supplemental grants caring for infants and toddlers
- Start-up support for new child care businesses
- Workforce Benefits



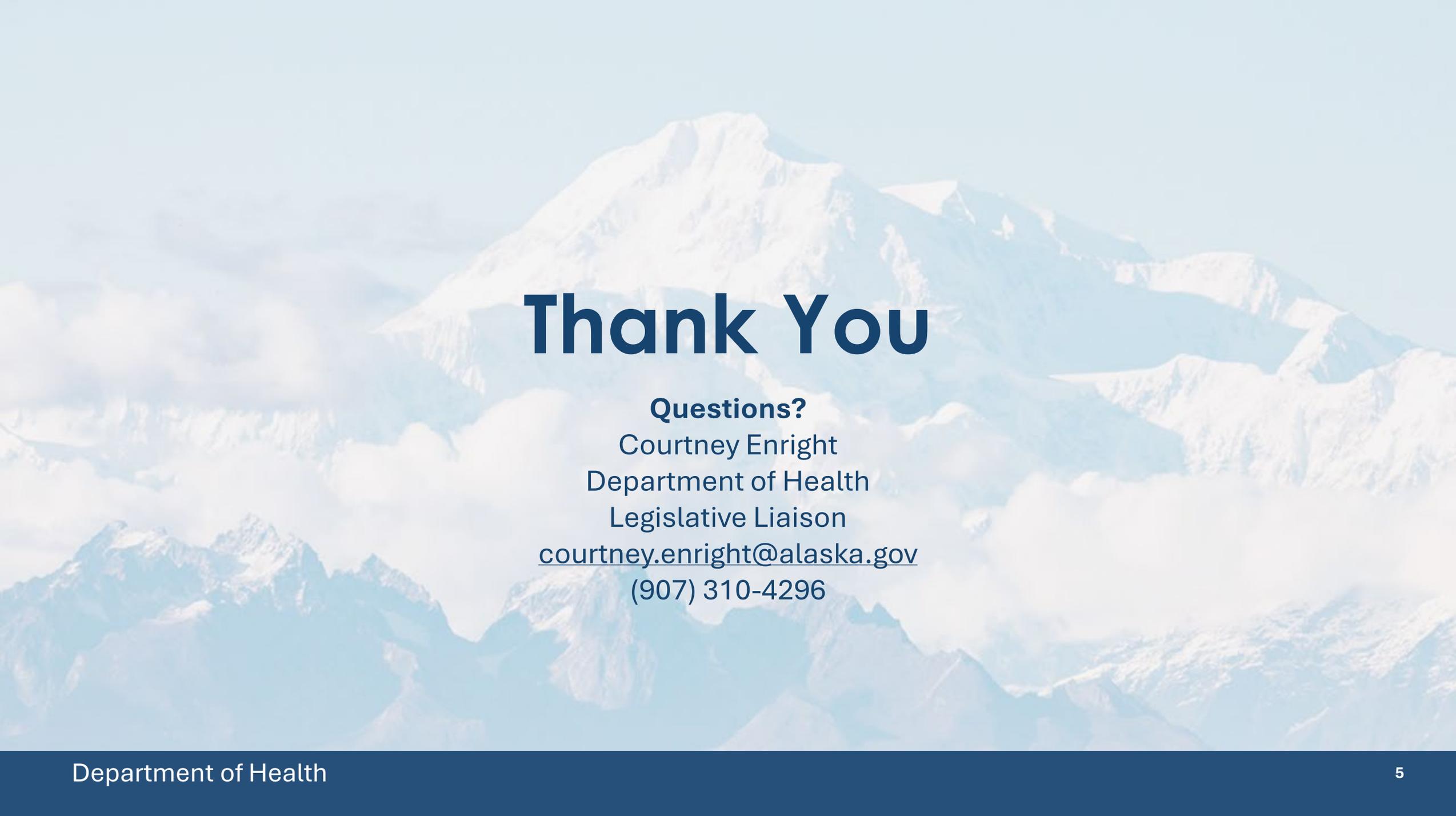
Key Accomplishments



Governor's Task Force on Child Care

- System Modernization
- Child Care Grant Redesign
- Public Private Partnerships
- Statutory and Regulatory Changes
- Workforce Support
- Partnership and Communications





Thank You

Questions?

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