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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE DISTRICT 30

## SESSION

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## **HB 326\Ver. A (34-LS1309/I)** **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

*“An Act relating to abortion-inducing drugs.”*

HB 326 reflects my commitment to protecting life and strengthening safeguards for women in Alaska. I believe life begins at conception and deserves protection at every stage. As legislators, we also have a responsibility to ensure that serious medical decisions, particularly those involving powerful prescription drugs, are accompanied by direct physician oversight and clear medical safeguards. At its core, HB 326 establishes medical standards to ensure that these medications are prescribed and monitored responsibly.

These medications are used to end a pregnancy and are intended to induce uterine contractions and significant bleeding. Known medical risks include heavy bleeding, severe cramping, incomplete abortion requiring additional medical intervention, infection, and, in rare cases, hemorrhage. In a large and rural state like Alaska, where emergency services are not always immediately accessible, proper in-person evaluation and follow-up care are especially important.

Under current law, physicians may prescribe medications within the scope of their practice. HB 326 establishes specific standards when these drugs are prescribed. It closes gaps that have allowed remote distribution models to develop and requires an in-person physical examination before the medication may be prescribed, dispensed, or administered. This ensures appropriate screening for conditions such as ectopic pregnancy and provides direct medical evaluation.

The bill also requires that a follow-up appointment be scheduled within 14 days to confirm termination of the pregnancy and assess continued blood loss or complications. These guardrails promote continuity of care, strengthen accountability, and protect Alaskan women.

HB 326 creates no criminal penalties and establishes no private civil enforcement. It raises the standard of care and ensures that these drugs are not distributed anonymously or without physician involvement.

In summary, HB 326 restores necessary guardrails, strengthens medical oversight, and moves Alaska toward greater protection for both women and unborn children within the authority granted to us.