

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sectional Analysis HB 362 Respiratory Care Licensure

Section 1: Adds respiratory care practitioners to the professions regulated by the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development.

Section 2: Adds respiratory care practitioners to the list of health care providers required to professional identification appropriate letters or a title after their name that indicates their specific field of practice.

Section 3: Adds respiratory care practitioners to the definition of “health care provider” under the Telehealth statute at AS 08.02.130.

Section 4: Creates a new chapter, AS 08.90 Respiratory Care Practitioners
AS 08.90.010 - .090 describes license requirements, prohibits the practice of respiratory care without a license, describes the scope of practice, and permits current respiratory care practitioners under the direction of a physician to become licensed, and requires continuing respiratory are education, and makes a violation of these terms a misdemeanor.

Section 5: Adds respiratory care practitioners to the definition of “health care provider” for purposes of medical malpractice law.

Section 6: Adds respiratory care practitioners to the definition of “health care provider” under AS 09.65.300(c)(I) (Definitions for immunity for providing free health care services).

Section 7: Adds respiratory care practitioners to the definition of “health care provider” under AS 14.30.141(e) (definitions for pupil self- administration of medications for asthma or anaphylaxis in schools).

Section 8: Extends protections to respiratory care practitioners under AS 21.36.090 (d), which prohibits unfair discrimination under group health insurance policies against respiratory care practitioners when providing covered services within their scope of license.

Section 9: Allows individuals already practicing respiratory care before the effective date to continue practicing for up to one year without a license while obtaining licensure.

Section 10: Provides an effective date of January 1, 2027.

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