

Jody Simpson

From: Mike Coons <mcoons@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Senate Health and Social Services
Cc: Sen. Mike Shower; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Pete Kelly
Subject: Support SB 193

My name is Mike Coons, President Alaska Chapter of the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

We have an Alaskan membership of 4,500 here in Alaska. Our chapter since Nov 17 is now in the 200 range. We are a conservative organization and we speak for conservative seniors throughout Alaska.

We support SB 193. Those able bodied people that have been added to Medicaid under the Obama era and by our Governor against the wishes of the majority in both the House and Senate as well as against the wishes of a large population of Alaskans are part of the failed "Great Society" of the LBJ administration. Nationally, we have lost 2 Trillion dollars and more since then and have generations of families that do not work, eat better than most working Alaskans with EBT cards and of course Welfare. Medicaid puts those able bodied people over those of working or retired seniors who have Medicare. I have heard said that adding Medicaid for all able bodied has also hurt those whom the intent of Medicaid was for, those in true need.

Not talked about is the downplaying of disabled. The US government passed a disability discrimination act many decades ago, so that the disabled can

work. Yet with Medicaid, as stands, the incentive to work is removed.

The value of work for self esteem for anyone with a physical or mental "challenge" is more helpful physically and mentally, than not working and living on government hand outs. I'm not calling for a "mandate" that the "disabled" work as in this bill for able bodied, but am calling for encouraging those that do not work but can, to have the ability to work.

Existing programs already are in existence to help those who need help to get a job that is possible with their "physical or mental challenges".

We fully support SB 193.

Mike Coons
President, Alaska Chapter, AMAC

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