

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

## Memorandum

Explanation of Changes: CS SS HB 268(HSS)  
(Version O to Version N)

*CSSS HB 268(HSS): An Act relating to the prescription of opioids; relating to the Department of Health and Social Services; relating to the practice of dentistry; relating to the practice of medicine; relating to the practice of podiatry; relating to the practice of osteopathy; relating to the practice of nursing; and relating to the practice of optometry.*

**Pg. 4 Section 3. (15) Line 4:** Added the word “initially” to clarify that a prescriber need only provide an oral and written statement to each patient before their *initial* prescription of an outpatient supply of an opioid. This was done to minimize the burden on providers. The House Health and Social Services committee did not believe repeated delivery of this information during subsequent prescriptions for an opioid medication was necessary, and the sponsor agrees.

- Concurring changes for all prescribing professions follow in:
  - Pg. 4 Section 4 (a) Line 8
  - Pg. 6 Section 5 (15) Line 31
  - Pg. 7 Section 6 (a) Line 4
  - Pg. 8 Section 7 (13) Line 29
  - Pg. 9 Section 8 (a) Line 2
  - Pg. 11 Section 9 (12) Line 1
  - Pg. 11 Section 10 (a) Line 5

**Pg. 4 Section 3. (15) Line 5:** Clarified the bill applies to outpatient prescriptions only. Added the term “outpatient supply” before “of an opioid to a patient.” in order to further define situations in which a prescriber must provide patient information about opioid medication. The term “outpatient supply” is used in law currently.

- Concurring changes for all prescribing professions follow in:
  - Pg. 4 Section 4 (a) Line 8
  - Pg. 7 Section 5 (15) Line 1
  - Pg. 7 Section 6 (a) Line 4
  - Pg. 8 Section 7 (13) Line 30
  - Pg. 9 Section 8 (a) Line 3
  - Pg. 11 Section 9 (12) Line 2
  - Pg. 11 Section 10 (a) Line 5

**Pg. 4 Section 4 (C)(iii). Lines 20-21:** Language removed requiring prescriber information to a patient on heroin addiction and the connection between opioid prescription drug addiction and heroin use. Changed “health danger” to “health risks”. Now reads that a prescriber must provide information on how “opioid addiction may pose potentially life-threatening health risks”.

- Concurring changes for all prescribing professions follow in:
  - Pg. 7 Section 6, C, iii, Line 17-18
  - Pg. 9 Section 8, C, iii, Line 17-18
  - Pg. 11 Section 10, C, iii, Lines 18-19