

HOUSE BILL NO. 275

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES LYNN, Gara, Miller, Peggy Wilson, Muñoz, Thompson

Introduced: 1/17/12

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act requiring that a policy of group health insurance offered by the state and**
2 **certain local governments include coverage for colorectal screening, allow retirees to**
3 **choose between brand-name and generic drug products, and limit certain prescription**
4 **drug benefit payments to an amount based on the cost of the generic drug product."**

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 * **Section 1.** AS 39.30.090(a) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

7 (13) Medical care insurance coverage obtained under this section for
8 persons who receive benefits under AS 14.25, AS 22.25, AS 39.35, or former
9 AS 39.37 after termination of employment with the state or a participating
10 governmental unit must include coverage of colorectal screening under AS 21.42.377.

11 (14) A policy of group insurance providing coverage of prescription
12 drugs under AS 14.25, AS 22.25, AS 39.35, or former AS 39.37 for a person who
13 receives benefits under AS 14.25, AS 22.25, AS 39.35, or former AS 39.37 after
14 termination of employment with the state or a participating governmental unit

1 (A) shall allow the person or the person's authorized
2 representative to choose, in writing, between a generic drug product and a
3 brand-name drug product if the person is having a prescription filled and both
4 products are available for that purpose;

5 (B) may not pay the difference between the cost of a brand-
6 name drug product and a generic drug product if the person for whom the drug
7 product is prescribed, or the person's authorized representative, chooses a
8 brand-name drug product, unless

9 (i) the person prescribing the drug product states, in
10 writing, that a generic drug product may not be dispensed; or

11 (ii) the pharmacist responsible for dispensing the drug
12 product states, in writing, that a generic drug product is not available to
13 dispense or that dispensing a generic drug product in that instance
14 would be unlawful.

15 * **Sec. 2.** AS 39.30.090(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

16 (4) "generic drug product" has the meaning given to the term
17 "equivalent drug product" in AS 08.80.480.