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March 23, 2010

The Honorable Wes Keller, Co-Chair House Health and Social Services Committee Alaska Capitol, Room 13 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Bob Herron, Co-Chair House Health and Social Services Committee Alaska Capitol, Room 411 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 260 (Keller)—Support

AARP Alaska 3601 C Street

Anchorage, AK 99503

Suite 1420

Dear Co-Chairs Keller and Herron:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House Health and Social Services Committee to support HB 260, authored by Co-Chair Keller and cosponsored by Representative Tuck.

HB 260 recognizes the importance of prevention for Medicaid beneficiaries. This is not only good health policy but wise fiscal policy.

Over the past few years, Medicare has increased the number and type of preventive services it will pay for. Congress and the federal government have done this because it makes good fiscal sense. HB 260 would allow Alaska's Medicaid program to do likewise.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on HB 260.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

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Sincerely,

Marie Darlin, Coordinator

AARP Capital City Task Force

415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506

Juneau, AK 99801

586-3637 (voice)

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Vice-Chair Representative Tammie Wilson Representative Sharon Cissna CC:

Representative Bob Lynn

Representative Paul Seaton

Representative Lindsey Holmes

Jennie Chin Hansen, President William D. Novelli, Chief Executive Officer