

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

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February 29, 2012

The Honorable Wes Keller
State Capitol, Room 432
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Keller:

On February 20, 2012, the Department of Health and Social received the following questions from you, shown in bold italicized font, regarding Senate Bill 144. The Department's responses follow the questions below.

- ***How many abortions were paid for by the State of Alaska with federal or state dollars? What was the total amount? How many abortions were paid for with general funds because the procedures did not qualify under the Hyde Amendment for payment with federal dollars? What was the total dollar amount?***

The State paid \$546.0 general fund, for abortions or abortion-related Medicaid services incurred in calendar year 2011; this involved 901 individuals. This does not indicate that 901 abortions were performed involving this funding, but rather denotes the number of individuals receiving abortions or other abortion related services.

- ***How many prescriptions for the morning after pill were paid for by federal dollars and how many prescriptions were paid for with general funds? What were the total amounts?***

During calendar year 2011 there were 495 claims for a total of \$21.2 for emergency contraception. All of the claims are processed with all other Medicaid claims. We would estimate at a minimum that these claims would be paid at the 50% FMAP rate, \$10.6 general fund and \$10.6 federal.

- ***Are any miscarriages paid for under the category of spontaneous abortions, and if so, how many and what funds were used for payment?***

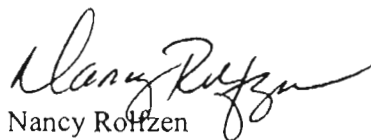
In calendar year 2011 there were 512 recipients that received services under the diagnosis codes categorized as miscarriages/spontaneous abortion at a total cost of \$697.9 (\$253.8 GF; \$441.1 federal).

➤ *Also, in 2002 the legislature enacted reporting requirements on the department for abortions in CSHB 160(JUD). Finding the statistics collected from this reporting requirement is near to impossible and I would like to see information more accessible on the Health and Social Services website.*

The Bureau of Vital Statistics reports that a total of 1,627 induced terminations were reported in Alaska in calendar year 2011, with Alaska residents accounting for 97.9 percent of the induced terminations that occurred in Alaska. This is a decrease of 5.1 percent from the 1,715 induced terminations reported in calendar year 2010. The Department will look into making these statistics more accessible on the Health and Social Services website.

If you have additional questions regarding this issue, please contact me at 465-1630.

Sincerely,



Nancy Roffzen
Assistant Commissioner

cc: Amanda Ryder, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Finance
Sarah Brinkley, Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget
William J. Streur, Commissioner
Ree Sailors, Deputy Commissioner
Kimberli Poppe-Smart, Deputy Commissioner
Ward Hurlburt, MD, Director and Chief Medical Officer, Division of Public Health
Laura Baker, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Management Services
Wilda Laughlin, Legislative Liaison
Dirk Anderson, Budget Manager

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: HB 284

1 Page 15, line 21:

2 Delete "**108,069,200**"

3 Insert "**107,421,380**"

4 Delete "**61,821,200**"

5 Insert "**61,173,380**"

6

7 Page 15, line 25:

8 Delete "10,701,500"

9 Insert "10,053,680"

10

11 Page 15, following line 25:

12 Insert new material to read:

13 "No money appropriated for public health and allocated to women, children, and
14 family health may be expended for an abortion that is not a mandatory service required under
15 AS 47.07.030(a). The money appropriated for Health and Social Services may be expended
16 only for mandatory services required under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and for
17 optional services offered by the state under the state plan for medical assistance that has been
18 approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services."

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16 only for mandatory services required under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and for
17 optional services offered by the state under the state plan for medical assistance that has been
18 approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. This statement is a
19 statement of the purpose of the appropriation and is neither merely descriptive language nor a
20 statement of legislative intent."