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To Bert Stedman
State Capitol Room 30
Juneau AK 99801

Mr Stedman

I am a radiology Tech in Wrangell AK.
I have lived here 30+ yrs.

I encourage you to support the
passage of SB # 159 this session and to
advocate for financial balance of medical
costs nationwide. Please read the TIME
magazine issue on medical costs in America,
and how out of control things have become.
Medical expenses kill. My aunt had to
choose between buying her medications or having
heating fuel. She died in Diabetic Coma. (TRUE!)

The medivac service is desperately needed in
Southeast Alaska. SEARCH PATIENTS delay care
to high cost of medivacs

① More families go bankrupt because of medical bills than any other reason.

② Credit Collection agencies are kept busy because of the high cost of medical care and the co-pay exorbitance of costs.

③ This is life or death, Home or homeless issue

④ The cost of 1 trip between Wrangell and Seattle is higher than the ^{gross} annual wage of most members of our community.

Think about that 2 hrs on a jet costing an entire years income that is insane!

I work in a remote hospital and have heard for years of the financial hell people endure due to medical costs. Anything to help lower these expenses is the right thing to do.

Sincerely

Maureen Maxand