

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: HB 148

1 Page 1, line 5, through page 2, line 13:

2 Delete all material and insert:

3 **"* Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
4 to read:

5 **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REFORM: LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.**

6 (a) The legislature finds that

7 (1) the current Medicaid program is not sustainable;

8 (2) improving the delivery of health care services to Alaskans requires state
9 government, health care providers, patient advocates, and other parties interested in high-
10 quality, affordable health care to collaborate to

11 (A) increase the availability of high-quality health care to Alaskans;

12 (B) provide greater value for state general fund dollars spent on the
13 state medical assistance program;

14 (C) reduce health care costs;

15 (D) provide incentives to encourage Alaskans to take greater
16 responsibility for their personal health;

17 (E) reduce or minimize the shifting of payment for unreimbursed
18 health care costs to patients with health insurance;

19 (3) providing greater value for the general fund dollars spent on the state
20 medical assistance program requires considering options for delivering services in a more
21 efficient and cost-effective manner, including, but not limited to,

22 (A) offering incentives to encourage health care providers to achieve
23 measurable performance outcomes;

1 (B) improving the coordination of care among health care providers
2 who participate in the medical assistance program;

3 (C) reducing preventable hospital readmissions; and

4 (D) exploring methods of medical assistance reimbursement that
5 promote quality of care and efficiencies;

6 (4) it is important to implement additional fraud, waste, and abuse safeguards
7 to protect and preserve the integrity and sustainability of the medical assistance program;

8 (5) state policymakers have an interest in testing the effectiveness of wellness
9 incentives in order to collect and analyze information about the correlation between wellness
10 incentives and health status;

11 (6) the purposes of this Act are to modify and enhance the state's health care
12 delivery system to provide access to high-quality, affordable health care for all citizens of the
13 state.

14 (b) It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Health and Social Services
15 maximize the use of existing resources in administering the state medical assistance
16 program."