



March 12, 20201

Alaska Senate Health, Education, and Social Services Committee

RE: SB93 Language

Dear Members of HESS Committee,

We are writing today to provide feedback to the language in Senate Bill 93: "An Act relating to the establishment of an all-payer health claims database (APCD); and providing for an effective date." We are highly supportive of the general concept of the bill for Alaska to establish an APCD and believe that it will be an important tool for understanding the state's health care landscape and supporting policy makers and researchers.

Based on our experience with APCDs, we offer the following feedback for your consideration.

- As written, the provider files will not include sufficient information to be able to identify which provider rendered the services documented in the claims.
- Since the goals of the database include providing information to "enable providers, insurers, payers, health care facilities, communities to improve by benchmarking their performance against that of others and focusing on establishing best practices," analysts will need information about who provided the care.
- We highly recommend that the language be changed to allow the collection of data to allow analysts to calculate cost and quality measures by providers.

The APCD Council is a program of the National Association of Health Data Organizations (NAHDO), in partnership with the Institute for Health Policy and Practice at the University of New Hampshire. The APCD Council is a learning Collaborative of government, private, non-profit and academic organizations focused on improving the development and deployment of state-based all payer claims databases (APCDs).

Please let us know if you have any questions. We would be happy to join one of your committee meetings or meet with someone from your staff to address this or any other questions you may have.

Sincerely,

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Co-Chair, APCD Council

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Co-Chair, APCD Council