

A M E N D M E N T # 1

Offered in: House

By: REP. McCARTY

TO CSHB 76\B(HSS)

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(1) in December 2019, a novel coronavirus known as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS CoV2) was first detected in Wuhan, Hubei province, People's Republic of China, leading to outbreaks of novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) that have now spread globally,

(2) on January 31, 2020, the United State Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency under 42 U.S.C. 247d (Public Health Service Act);

(3) to date, 50 states have confirmed cases of COVID-19, including confirmation of community transmission of COVID-19;

(4) on March 11, 2020, the commissioner of health and social services certified to the governor that there was a high probability that COVID-19 presents a credible threat of an imminent outbreak of the disease in the state, meeting the definition of disaster under AS 26.23.900(2)(E);

(5) on March 11, 2020, the governor issued a declaration of a public health disaster emergency under AS 26.23.020 in anticipation of the spread of COVID-19 to the state and has since issued multiple new disaster declarations for the COVID-19 outbreak;

(6) in the disaster declaration issued March 11, 2020, the governor found that a statewide response under AS 18.15.390 was required to address the public health disaster emergency and authorized the commissioner of health and social services and the adjutant general of military and veterans' affairs to take all actions necessary to address the public health disaster emergency;

(7) on March 12, 2020, the Department of Health and Social Services and the governor announced that the first case of COVID-19 was diagnosed in an individual in Anchorage;

(8) from March 12, 2020, to present, cases of COVID-19 continue to be diagnosed across the state;