

AMENDMENT

#5

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: CSHB 172(JUD), Draft Version "W"

1 Page 12, following line 31:

2 Insert a new bill section to read:

3 **** Sec. 26.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
4 read:

5 REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE. (a) One year after the effective date of this Act,
6 the Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
7 shall submit a joint report to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of
8 representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must

9 (1) include an assessment of the current state, federal, and accrediting body
10 requirements for psychiatric patient rights, including patient grievance and appeal policies and
11 procedures; the assessment must address the adequacy of these policies and procedures and
12 the practical challenges patients face in availing themselves of these rights;

13 (2) identify and recommend any additional changes to state statutes,
14 regulations, or other requirements that could enhance patient rights, particularly involving
15 involuntary admissions, involuntary medications, and the practical ability of patients to avail
16 themselves of their rights; and

17 (3) assess and recommend any needed changes to current processes for data
18 collection and reporting of patient grievances and appeals, patient reports of harm and
19 restraint, and the resolution of these matters.

20 (b) The process used by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska
21 Mental Health Trust Authority to develop the assessment and recommendations under (a) of
22 this section must include convening a diverse stakeholder group that includes members
23 representing patients with lived experience, patient advocates, the Disability Law Center of

1 Alaska, providers of psychiatric services, the ombudsman, the Alaska Mental Health Board,
2 the Department of Health and Social Services, and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.
3 A draft assessment and any recommendations must be made available for public comment,
4 and any comments must be given due consideration before the production and transmittal of
5 the final report."

6

7 Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

8

9 Page 13, line 14:

10 Delete "Section 27"

11 Insert "Section 28"