

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICES

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EDUCATION

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LABOR AND
COMMERCE



NORTH POLE

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BADGER ROAD

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DISTRICT
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REPRESENTATIVE MIKE PRAX

Sponsor Statement for House Bill 96

In Alaska, the Pharmacy Board requires a pharmacy that only distributes dialysis supplies and solutions to the home of dialysis patients, to comply with the same arduous requirements as retail pharmacies (e.g., Walgreens, CVS) that handle controlled substances, compounds, and dispense medications with varying safety profiles. Pharmacies that deliver dialysis supplies and solutions only offer a limited product portfolio and follow all Quality and FDA requirements; additional retail pharmacy mandates are onerous to the operations.

Currently 24 states allow manufacturers that are registered as wholesale drug distributors and who distribute dialysis supplies and solutions, to deliver directly to home dialysis patients. An additional 8 states provide for some form of special licensure for the distribution of these products which ensures that the dialysis supplies are available for delivery to patients. Both Hawaii and Nevada have bills pending this session to accomplish the same goal.

HB 96 would amend the pharmacy practice act to allow manufacturers of home dialysis drugs, supplies and devices to be exempted from pharmacy if they maintain control of all products from manufacturing to the patient. This would still require the pharmacy to maintain any additional licenses such as a wholesaler license.