

REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN J. MCCABE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE DISTRICT 30

SESSION
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 465-2679
Toll Free: (800) 505-2678



DISTRICT
600 E. Railroad Ave., Suite 1
Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: (907) 376-2679
Toll Free: (800) 505-2678

House Bill 108 –

"An Act relating to a health care insurance policy incentive program; relating to health care services; and providing for an effective date."

Sponsor Statement

The state of Alaska has some of the highest health care costs in the nation and those costs are not showing signs of coming down. House Bill 108 implements measures to help relieve the disproportionate burden of health care costs on family budgets, seniors on fixed income and employers providing benefits to their employees.

House Bill 108 will provide Alaskans with the information that they need to plan financially for their health care decisions. The bill requires health care providers and insurers to disclose full cost information to patients upon request including any out-of-pocket costs associated with their treatment. The bill also adds a mechanism whereby insurance companies will provide an incentive – a shared savings rebate – to policyholders based upon a choice for healthcare below the average in network cost.

Employers providing health insurance to their employees will also be eligible for a portion of that shared savings. Over time, by encouraging health care patients to shop for more affordable care options, we hope to stabilize costs and bring them down. Several states have either passed or are currently working on healthcare cost transparency legislation with similar hopes for the long-term positive effects of such legislation on health care costs.

HB 108 will empower Alaskans with the tools needed to make healthcare choices that fit their needs and work for their budgets while encouraging competition in the healthcare market. I hope that you will join me in supporting this legislation.

Staff contact: Buddy Whitt, (907) 465-2679