

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 193(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/12/96

Referred: Labor and Commerce

Sponsor(s): SENATORS SALO, Donley, Ellis, Duncan, Kelly, Pearce, Zharoff

REPRESENTATIVES Robinson, B.Davis, Finkelstein, G.Davis, Navarre, Phillips

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to insurance coverage for certain costs of birth; and providing
2 for an effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 21.42 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 Sec. 21.42.347. **COVERAGE FOR COSTS OF BIRTH.** (a) An insurer who
6 provides coverage for the costs of childbirth shall also offer coverage for the costs of
7 hospitalization or medical care following childbirth for a period of not less than

8 (1) 48 hours after a vaginal birth; and

9 (2) 96 hours after a caesarean birth.

10 (b) Except as otherwise required to offer coverage specified under (a) of this
11 section, this section does not affect a payment arrangement entered into between a
12 hospital or physician and an insurer.

13 (c) This section may not be construed to require hospitalization or medical care
14 as described under (a)(1) or (2) of this section if the mother giving birth and the

1 mother's health care provider agree that the mother and any newborn child of the
2 mother should be discharged earlier than required under (a)(1) or (2) of this section.

3 (d) In this section,

4 (1) "health care provider" means a person licensed in this state to
5 provide health care services;

6 (2) "insurer" includes

7 (A) an insurer, as defined in AS 21.90.900;

8 (B) a group health plan, as defined in 29 U.S.C. 1167(l)
9 (Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974);

10 (C) a health maintenance organization, as defined in
11 AS 21.86.900;

12 (D) a hospital service corporation or medical service
13 corporation, as defined in AS 21.87.330;

14 (E) a writing carrier, as defined in AS 21.55.500; and

15 (F) an entity offering a service benefit plan, as referred to in 42
16 U.S.C. 1396g-1.

17 * **Sec. 2.** APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to a policy of insurance issued or renewed
18 on or after the effective date of this Act.

19 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).