

SENATE BILL NO. 122

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

Introduced: 3/6/97

Referred: Labor and Commerce, HESS

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to unfair discrimination under a group health insurance policy
2 for services provided by marital and family therapists; and providing for an
3 effective date."

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

5 * **Section 1.** AS 21.36.090(d) is amended to read:

6 (d) Except to the extent necessary to comply with AS 21.42.365 and AS 21.56,
7 a person may not practice or permit unfair discrimination against a person who
8 provides a service covered under a group health insurance policy that extends coverage
9 on an expense incurred basis, or under a group service or indemnity type contract
10 issued by a nonprofit corporation, if the service is within the scope of the provider's
11 occupational license. In this subsection, "provider" means a state licensed physician,
12 dentist, osteopath, optometrist, chiropractor, nurse midwife, advanced nurse
13 practitioner, naturopath, physical therapist, occupational therapist, **marital and family**
14 **therapist**, psychologist, psychological associate, or licensed clinical social worker, or

1 certified direct-entry midwife.

2 * **Sec. 2.** Section 4, ch. 39, SLA 1993, is repealed and reenacted to read:

3 (d) Except to the extent necessary to comply with AS 21.42.365, a person may
4 not practice or permit unfair discrimination against a person who provides a service
5 covered under a group health policy that extends coverage on an expense incurred
6 basis, or under a group service or indemnity type contract issued by a nonprofit
7 corporation, if the service is within the scope of the provider's occupational license.

8 In this subsection, "provider" means a state licensed physician, dentist, osteopath,
9 optometrist, chiropractor, nurse midwife, advanced nurse practitioner, naturopath,
10 physical therapist, occupational therapist, marital and family therapist, psychologist,
11 psychological associate, or licensed clinical social worker.

12 * **Sec. 3.** This Act applies to a policy of insurance issued or renewed on or after the
13 effective date of this Act.

14 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.