

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 369(HES)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/9/98

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to Medicaid coverage for certain eligible children; relating to  
2 premiums and cost-sharing contributions under the Medicaid program; and  
3 providing for an effective date."

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

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 47.07.020(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

6 (12) persons under age 19 who are not covered under (a) of this section  
7 and whose household income does not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty  
8 guideline as defined by the federal office of management and budget and revised under  
9 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).

10 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 47.07.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

11 (i) The department may allow a person under 19 years of age who is  
12 determined to be eligible for benefits under this chapter to remain eligible for those  
13 benefits for up to 11 calendar months following the month that the person is  
14 determined eligible for benefits or until the person is 19 years old, whichever occurs

1 earlier.

2 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 47.07.042(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) Except as provided in (b) - (d) [(b) AND (c)] of this section, the state plan  
4 developed under AS 47.07.040 shall impose deductible, coinsurance, and copayment  
5 requirements [OR SIMILAR CHARGES] on persons eligible for assistance under this  
6 chapter to the maximum extent allowed under federal law and regulations. The plan  
7 must provide that health care providers shall collect the allowable charge. The  
8 department shall reduce payments to each provider by the amount of the allowable  
9 charge. A provider may not deny services because a recipient is unable to share costs,  
10 but an inability to share costs imposed under this section does not relieve the recipient  
11 of liability for the costs.

12 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 47.07.042 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13 (d) In addition to the requirements established under (a) and (b) of this section,  
14 the department may require premiums or cost-sharing contributions from recipients  
15 who are eligible for benefits under AS 47.07.020(b)(12) and whose household income  
16 is between 150 and 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline. If the department  
17 requires premiums or cost-sharing contributions under this subsection, the department

18 (1) shall adopt in regulation a sliding scale for those premiums or  
19 contributions based on household income;

20 (2) may not exceed the maximums allowed under federal law; and

21 (3) shall implement a system by which the department or its designee  
22 collects those premiums or contributions.

23 \* **Sec. 5.** TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. Notwithstanding sec. 7 of this Act, the  
24 Department of Health and Social Services may proceed to adopt regulations necessary to  
25 implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62  
26 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of secs. 1 - 4 of this Act.

27 \* **Sec. 6.** Section 5 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

28 \* **Sec. 7.** Except as provided in sec. 6 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 1998.