

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 181(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/2/98
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATOR WARD

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to assistance for abortions under the general relief program."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 47.25.205 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 47.25.205. Priority of general relief medical assistance. (a) Except**
5 **as provided in (b) of this section, if** [IF] the department finds that the cost of medical
6 assistance for all persons eligible under AS 47.25.120 - 47.25.300 will exceed the
7 amount allocated in the state budget for that assistance for the fiscal year, the
8 department shall eliminate coverage for medical services in the following order:

9 (1) **abortions and related services and supplies, such as medical**
10 **supplies and equipment, transportation, laboratory and x-ray services, physician**
11 **services, hospital services, and pharmaceuticals, used for an abortion;**

12 (2) treatment of speech, hearing, and language disorders;

13 (3) [(2)] optometrists' services and eyeglasses;

14 (4) [(3)] occupational therapy;

15 (5) [(4)] emergency dental services for adults;

- 1 (6) [(5)] prosthetic devices not including dentures;
- 2 (7) [(6)] medical supplies and equipment **other than those used to**
- 3 **perform an abortion;**
- 4 (8) [(7)] physical therapy;
- 5 (9) [(8)] outpatient laboratory and outpatient x-ray services **other than**
- 6 **those used for an abortion;**
- 7 (10) [(9)] ambulatory surgical center services **other than services to**
- 8 **perform an abortion;**
- 9 (11) [(10)] nonemergency medical transportation **other than**
- 10 **transportation to obtain an abortion;**
- 11 (12) [(11)] outpatient physician services **other than services to**
- 12 **perform an abortion;**
- 13 (13) [(12)] outpatient hospital services **other than services to perform**
- 14 **an abortion;**
- 15 (14) [(13)] intermediate care facility services;
- 16 (15) [(14)] skilled nursing facility services;
- 17 (16) [(15)] emergency medical transportation **other than**
- 18 **transportation for an abortion;**
- 19 (17) [(16)] pharmaceuticals **other than those used in an abortion;**
- 20 (18) [(17)] inpatient physician services **other than services to perform**
- 21 **an abortion;**
- 22 (19) [(18)] inpatient hospital services **other than services to perform**
- 23 **an abortion.**

24 * **Sec. 2.** AS 47.25.205 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

25 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the department shall provide coverage

26 for abortions and related services and supplies in cases where a woman who is

27 otherwise eligible under AS 47.25.120 - 47.25.300 suffers from a physical disorder,

28 physical injury, or physical illness, including a life-endangering physical condition

29 caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician

30 licensed under AS 08.64, place the woman in danger of death unless an abortion is

31 performed.