

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Introduced: 4/14/00

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 **Creating the Alaska Health Care Commission.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** health insurance costs and health care costs continue to soar; and

4 **WHEREAS** a growing number of Alaskans cannot afford either health insurance or
5 health care services; and

6 **WHEREAS** many Alaskans live outside the urban centers where most health care
7 providers are located; and

8 **WHEREAS** there is a drain on the Alaska economy resulting from health care dollars
9 leaving the state because more than 40 percent of the health care and hospital services
10 provided to Alaskans are provided out of state; and

11 **WHEREAS** Alaskans lack the information they need to evaluate the fair market value
12 of health care services; and

13 **WHEREAS** there is a growing disparity between Medicaid, insurance, and cash
14 customer rates charged by health care providers;

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature establishes the Alaska Health
16 Care Commission to evaluate and recommend to the Governor, the legislature, and the
17 residents of Alaska options for improvement of Alaska's health care delivery system; and be

1 it

2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission shall consist of 12
3 voting members who are Alaska residents, appointed as follows:

4 (1) four members appointed by the Speaker of the House, one of whom shall
5 be a member of the majority caucus, one of whom shall be a member of a minority caucus,
6 one of whom shall be a representative of the insurance industry, and one of whom shall be
7 a representative of the health care provider industry;

8 (2) four members appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom shall
9 be a member of the majority caucus, and one of whom shall be a member of a minority
10 caucus, one of whom shall be a representative of the insurance industry, and one of whom
11 shall be a representative of the health care provider industry;

12 (3) four members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall represent the
13 interests of the state's public health programs, one of whom shall represent federal health
14 programs administered in the state, and two of whom shall be public members who represent
15 Alaska health care consumers; and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following three persons may serve on the Alaska
17 Health Care Commission as nonvoting members: the commissioners of health and social
18 services, administration, and community and economic development, or their designees; and
19 be it

20 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public members of the Alaska Health Care
21 Commission shall serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses
22 authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180; and be it

23 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission shall select a chair
24 and vice-chair from among its members, and the chair shall vote only to break a tie; the
25 commission shall meet as frequently as the commission determines necessary, and the
26 commission may meet and vote by teleconference; and be it

27 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission shall prepare a
28 report that includes the following:

29 (1) evaluation of the option of creating a publicly or privately held trust with
30 administrative powers to oversee an Alaska health care delivery system;

31 (2) evaluation of options for new uses of telemedicine to provide better and

1 more efficient health care delivery to remote areas of Alaska; and

2 (3) evaluation of options for moving toward requiring health care providers to
3 charge the same rates for services to every consumer and toward free market rate setting; and
4 be it

5 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission shall present a
6 preliminary report to the Governor and the legislature by January 1, 2001, that

7 (1) outlines the options being evaluated;

8 (2) describes an action plan, including a public participation process, outlining
9 a detailed work schedule for preparation of the final report; and

10 (3) includes proposed legislation that would authorize temporary support staff
11 for the commission; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission shall submit a draft
13 report by January 1, 2002, and a final report by March 30, 2002, to the Governor and the
14 legislature; and be it

15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission may propose
16 legislation to extend the final report date; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska Health Care Commission is authorized to
18 begin work immediately upon the appointment of its full membership or by June 15, 2000,
19 whichever date is earlier, and that the Alaska Health Care Commission is terminated on
20 March 30, 2002, unless extended under other legislation.