



LAWS OF ALASKA

2004

Source
HB 500(title am)

Chapter No.
71

AN ACT

Including the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations under the definition of medical review organizations.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

AN ACT

1 Including the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations under the
2 definition of medical review organizations.

3 _____

4 * **Section 1.** AS 18.23.070(5) is amended to read:

5 (5) "review organization" means

6 (A) a hospital governing body or a committee whose
7 membership is limited to health care providers and administrative staff, except
8 where otherwise provided for by state or federal law, and that is established by
9 a hospital, by a clinic, by one or more state or local associations of health care
10 providers, by an organization of health care providers from a particular area or
11 medical institution, or by a professional standards review organization
12 established under 42 U.S.C. 1320c-1, to gather and review information relating
13 to the care and treatment of patients for the purposes of

14 (i) evaluating and improving the quality of health care

1 rendered in the area or medical institution;

2 (ii) reducing morbidity or mortality;

3 (iii) obtaining and disseminating statistics and
4 information relative to the treatment and prevention of diseases, illness,
5 and injuries;

6 (iv) developing and publishing guidelines showing the
7 norms of health care in the area or medical institution;

8 (v) developing and publishing guidelines designed to
9 keep the cost of health care within reasonable bounds;

10 (vi) reviewing the quality or cost of health care services
11 provided to enrollees of health maintenance organizations;

12 (vii) acting as a professional standards review
13 organization under 42 U.S.C. 1320c;

14 (viii) reviewing, ruling on, or advising on controversies,
15 disputes, or questions between a health insurance carrier or health
16 maintenance organization and one or more of its insured or enrollees;
17 between a professional licensing board, acting under its powers of
18 discipline or license revocation or suspension, and a health care
19 provider licensed by it when the matter is referred to a review
20 organization by the professional licensing board; between a health care
21 provider and the provider's patients concerning diagnosis, treatment, or
22 care, or a charge or fee; between a health care provider and a health
23 insurance carrier or health maintenance organization concerning a
24 charge or fee for health care services provided to an insured or enrollee;
25 or between a health care provider or the provider's patients and the
26 federal or a state or local government, or an agency of the federal or a
27 state or local government;

28 (ix) acting on the recommendation of a credential
29 review committee or a grievance committee;

30 (B) the State Medical Board established by AS 08.64.010;

31 (C) a committee established by the commissioner of health and

1 social services and approved by the State Medical Board to review public
2 health issues regarding morbidity or mortality; at least 75 percent of the
3 committee members must be health care providers;

4 **(D) the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare**
5 **Organizations (JCAHO).**