

HOUSE BILL NO. 500

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES SAMUELS, Holm

Introduced: 2/16/04

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to medical review organizations; and providing for an effective date."**

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

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

4 (5) "review organization" means

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

13 (i) evaluating and improving the quality of health care
14 rendered in the area or medical institution;

15 (ii) reducing morbidity or mortality;

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 (ix) acting on the recommendation of a credential
27 review committee or a grievance committee;

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

29 (C) a committee established by the commissioner of health and
30 social services and approved by the State Medical Board to review public
31 health issues regarding morbidity or mortality; at least 75 percent of the

1 committee members must be health care providers;

2 **(D) the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare**
3 **Organizations (JCAHO).**