

SENATE BILL NO. 37

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS ELTON AND DYSON

Introduced: 1/11/05

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, State Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the regulation of the transportation of dead bodies."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 18.05.040(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) The commissioner shall adopt regulations consistent with existing law for

5 (1) the definition, reporting, and control of diseases of public health
6 significance;

7 (2) cooperation with local boards of health and health officers;

8 (3) protection and promotion of the public health and prevention of
9 disability and mortality;

10 (4) the transportation of dead bodies, except that the commissioner
11 may not require that a dead body be embalmed unless the body is known to carry
12 a communicable disease or embalment is otherwise required for the protection
13 of the public health or for compliance with federal law;

14 (5) carrying out the purposes of this chapter;

15 (6) the conduct of its business and for carrying out the provisions of

1 laws of the United States and the state relating to public health;

2 (7) establishing the divisions and local offices and advisory groups
3 necessary or considered expedient to carry out or assist in carrying out a duty or power
4 assigned to it;

5 (8) the voluntary certification of laboratories to perform diagnostic,
6 quality control, or enforcement analyses or examinations based on recognized or
7 tentative standards of performance relating to analysis and examination of food to
8 include seafood, milk, water, and specimens from human beings submitted by licensed
9 physicians and nurses for analysis;

10 (9) the regulation of quality and purity of commercially compressed
11 oxygen sold for human respiration;

12 (10) the licensure of midwifery birth centers, except that the
13 commissioner may not require the presence of a physician or nurse midwife at a birth
14 resulting from a low risk pregnancy attended by a direct-entry midwife certified in this
15 state.