

**SENATE BILL NO. 79**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR**

**Introduced: 1/24/05**

**Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to coverage for adult dental services under Medicaid; and providing**  
2 **for an effective date."**

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

4 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
5 to read:

6 PURPOSE; INTENT. (a) The purpose of this Act is to increase adult dental care  
7 services for eligible recipients of Medicaid under AS 47.07 to ensure that services critical to  
8 recipients are put in place first, while controlling the overall growth of the costs of the  
9 increase in services.

10 (b) It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Health and Social Services  
11 implement the increase in adult dental care services authorized by this Act through the  
12 adoption of regulations consistent with the department's obligation to contain the costs of the  
13 increased services in order to provide the services within appropriation limits. It is further the  
14 intent of the legislature that the Department of Health and Social Services implement

1 mechanisms to contain costs, which may include establishing a maximum amount of benefits  
2 per eligible recipient per fiscal year for the services and specifying the scope of the services.

3 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 47.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 47.07.067. Payment for adult dental services.** The department shall  
5 pay for adult dental services under AS 47.07.030(b) under regulations adopted by the  
6 commissioner in conformity with applicable federal requirements and this chapter.  
7 Regulations adopted under this section may include the following:

8 (1) a maximum amount of benefits for adult dental services per eligible  
9 recipient per fiscal year; this paragraph does not apply to minimum treatment for the  
10 immediate relief of pain and acute infection provided by a licensed dentist;

11 (2) specification of the scope of adult dental services.

12 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 47.07.900(1) is repealed.

13 \* **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
14 read:

15 **TRANSITION: REGULATIONS.** The Department of Health and Social Services  
16 may proceed to adopt regulations necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The  
17 regulations take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the  
18 effective date of the statutory changes.

19 \* **Sec. 5.** Section 4 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

20 \* **Sec. 6.** Except as provided in sec. 5 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2005.