

SENATE BILL NO. 244

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS WAGONER, Ellis

Introduced: 1/19/06

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Health, Education and Social Services

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act prohibiting unfair discrimination against an acupuncturist; amending the**
2 **definition of 'provider' as it relates to authorized collective negotiations by physicians**
3 **affecting the rights of providers under health benefit plans; and providing for an**
4 **effective date."**

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

6 * **Section 1.** AS 21.36.090(d) is amended to read:

7 (d) Except to the extent necessary to comply with AS 21.42.365 and
8 AS 21.56, a person may not practice or permit unfair discrimination against a person
9 who provides a service covered under a group health insurance policy that extends
10 coverage on an expense incurred basis, or under a group service or indemnity type
11 contract issued by a health maintenance organization or a nonprofit corporation, if the
12 service is within the scope of the provider's occupational license. In this subsection,
13 "provider" means a state licensed physician, physician assistant, dentist, osteopath,
14 optometrist, chiropractor, nurse midwife, advanced nurse practitioner, naturopath,

1 physical therapist, occupational therapist, marital and family therapist, psychologist,
2 psychological associate, licensed clinical social worker, [OR] certified direct-entry
3 midwife, or acupuncturist.

4 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).