

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**SENATE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES STANDING COMMITTEE**

April 16, 2014

1:46 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Senator Bert Stedman, Chair  
Senator Peter Micciche, Vice Chair  
Senator Pete Kelly

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Senator Johnny Ellis  
Senator Kevin Meyer

**COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 134(HSS)

"An Act requiring Medicaid payment for medication compliance packaging, delivery, and dispensing services of a prescription for specified recipients; and providing for an effective date."

- MOVED CSHB 134(HSS) OUT OF COMMITTEE

**PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION**

BILL: HB 134

SHORT TITLE: MEDICAID PAYMENT FOR MEDISET PRESCRIPTION

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) COSTELLO

02/20/13	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/20/13	(H)	HSS, FIN
03/19/13	(H)	HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106
03/19/13	(H)	Heard & Held
03/19/13	(H)	MINUTE(HSS)
03/28/13	(H)	HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106
03/28/13	(H)	Heard & Held
03/28/13	(H)	MINUTE(HSS)
04/02/13	(H)	HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106
04/02/13	(H)	Heard & Held
04/02/13	(H)	MINUTE(HSS)
04/04/13	(H)	HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106
04/04/13	(H)	Scheduled But Not Heard
04/06/13	(H)	HSS AT 9:00 AM CAPITOL 106
04/06/13	(H)	Heard & Held
04/06/13	(H)	MINUTE(HSS)

04/08/13 (H) FIN AT 8:00 AM HOUSE FINANCE 519  
 04/08/13 (H) Scheduled But Not Heard  
 03/13/14 (H) HSS AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106  
 03/13/14 (H) Scheduled But Not Heard  
 03/14/14 (H) HSS AT 8:00 AM CAPITOL 106  
 03/14/14 (H) Moved CSHB 134(HSS) Out of Committee  
 03/14/14 (H) MINUTE(HSS)  
 03/17/14 (H) HSS RPT CS(HSS) NT 4DP 2NR  
 03/17/14 (H) DP: REINBOLD, NAGEAK, TARR, HIGGINS  
 03/17/14 (H) NR: PRUITT, KELLER  
 03/24/14 (H) FIN AT 8:30 AM HOUSE FINANCE 519  
 03/24/14 (H) Heard & Held  
 03/24/14 (H) MINUTE(FIN)  
 03/26/14 (H) FIN AT 7:00 PM HOUSE FINANCE 519  
 03/26/14 (H) -- MEETING CANCELED --  
 03/28/14 (H) FIN RPT CS(HSS) NT 6DP 4NR  
 03/28/14 (H) DP: GUTTENBERG, HOLMES, MUNOZ, GARA,  
 COSTELLO, STOLTZE  
 03/28/14 (H) NR: THOMPSON, NEUMAN, T.WILSON,  
 AUSTERMAN  
 03/28/14 (H) FIN AT 8:30 AM HOUSE FINANCE 519  
 03/28/14 (H) Moved CSHB 134(HSS) Out of Committee  
 03/28/14 (H) MINUTE(FIN)  
 04/01/14 (H) TRANSMITTED TO (S)  
 04/01/14 (H) VERSION: CSHB 134(HSS)  
 04/02/14 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS  
 04/02/14 (S) HSS  
 04/07/14 (S) HSS AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205  
 04/07/14 (S) -- MEETING CANCELED --  
 04/09/14 (S) HSS AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205  
 04/09/14 (S) Scheduled But Not Heard  
 04/11/14 (S) HSS AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205  
 04/11/14 (S) -- MEETING CANCELED --  
 04/14/14 (S) HSS AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205  
 04/14/14 (S) Heard & Held  
 04/14/14 (S) MINUTE(HSS)  
 04/16/14 (S) HSS AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

**WITNESS REGISTER**

CHARLES GUINCHARD, Staff  
 Representative Mia Costello  
 Alaska State Legislature  
 Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Presented information related to HB 134 on behalf of the sponsor.

WILLIAM STREUR, Commissioner  
Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS)  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Answered questions related to HB 134.

**ACTION NARRATIVE**

[1:46:17 PM](#)

**CHAIR BERT STEDMAN** called the Senate Health and Social Services Standing Committee meeting to order at 1:46 p.m. Present at the call to order were Senators Micciche, Kelly, and Chair Stedman.

**HB 134-MEDICAID PAYMENT FOR MEDISET PRESCRIPTION**

[1:47:15 PM](#)

CHAIR STEDMAN announced the consideration of HB 134. [CSHB 134(HSS) was before the committee.] He said it is the second hearing on the bill. The intent is to move the bill from committee with the attached Letter of Intent.

[1:47:26 PM](#)

CHARLES GUINCHARD, Staff, Representative Mia Costello, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, presented information related to HB 134 on behalf of the sponsor. He said that the sponsor has no objection to the Letter of Intent.

CHAIR STEMAN read the Letter of Intent:

It is the intent of the Alaska State Legislature that the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services make every reasonable effort to adopt equitable regulations providing the same fee established in AS 47.07.031 to all pharmacies in the state that dispense medisets or similar unit doses to qualified medical assistance recipients in the state.

He explained that the committee wanted a broader reach and to have it apply to smaller pharmacies also.

[1:49:03 PM](#)

WILLIAM STREUR, Commissioner, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), introduced himself and offered to answer questions related to HB 134.

CHAIR STEDMAN asked Commissioner Struer if he was comfortable with the Letter of Intent.

COMMISSIONER STREUR said he is comfortable with the Letter of Intent and the recommendation contained therein but, depending on how the Letter of Intent is interpreted, it could be very expensive.

CHAIR STEDMAN said that would be up to the Senate Finance Committee.

SENATOR MICCICHE requested more information about the possible expense.

COMMISSIONER STREUR related that the department worked on a fiscal note based on what would happen if restrictions in regulations were removed. He stated that the Letter of Intent addresses regulations and not the bill because the bill does not speak to a percentage of medisets a pharmacy must dispense in order to qualify for the reimbursement. If the provision is opened statewide, it would cost about \$500,000 more a year for dispensing fees.

CHAIR STEDMAN asked if dispensing fees are controlled by regulation.

COMMISSIONER STREUR said yes.

[1:51:16 PM](#)

SENATOR MICCICHE moved to report CS for HB 134, version E, from committee with individual recommendations, attached zero fiscal note, and the attached Letter of Intent.

CHAIR STEDMAN announced that without objection, CSHB 134(HSS) is reported from the Senate Health and Social Services Standing Committee.

[1:52:06 PM](#)

There being nothing further to come before the committee, Chair Stedman adjourned the Senate Health and Social Services Standing Committee at 1:52 p.m.