

**SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 151(HSS)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/6/18

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES GARA, Spohnholz, Drummond, Parish, Fansler, Tuck, Grenn, Ortiz

SENATORS Kelly, Giessel, MacKinnon, Micciche, Stedman, Stevens, Bishop, Costello, Hoffman, Gardner, Hughes, Egan, Olson, Wielechowski, Wilson, Coghill, Meyer, von Imhof

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Health and Social Services; relating  
2 to training and workload standards for employees of the Department of Health and  
3 Social Services and providing immunity from damages related to those standards;  
4 relating to foster care home licensing; relating to civil and criminal history background  
5 checks for foster care licensing and payments; relating to placement of a child in need of  
6 aid; relating to the rights and responsibilities of foster parents; relating to completed  
7 investigations of reports of harm to a child; requiring the Department of Health and  
8 Social Services to provide information to a child or person released from the  
9 department's custody; and providing for an effective date."

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

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

1           SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Children Deserve a Loving Home Act.

2   \* **Sec. 2.** AS 47.05.065 is amended to read:

3           **Sec. 47.05.065. Legislative findings related to children.** The legislature finds  
4   that

5                   (1) parents have the following rights and responsibilities relating to the  
6   care and control of their child while the child is a minor:

7                           (A) the responsibility to provide the child with food, clothing,  
8   shelter, education, and medical care;

9                           (B) the right and responsibility to protect, nurture, train, and  
10   discipline the child, including the right to direct the child's medical care and  
11   the right to exercise reasonable corporal discipline;

12                          (C) the right to determine where and with whom the child shall  
13   live;

14                          (D) the right and responsibility to make decisions of legal or  
15   financial significance concerning the child;

16                          (E) the right to obtain representation for the child in legal  
17   actions; and

18                          (F) the responsibility to provide special safeguards and care,  
19   including appropriate prenatal and postnatal protection for the child;

20                   (2) it is the policy of the state to strengthen families and to protect  
21   children from child abuse and neglect; the state recognizes that, in some cases,  
22   protection of a child may require removal of the child from the child's home; however,

23                           (A) except in those cases involving serious risk to a child's  
24   health or safety, the Department of Health and Social Services should provide  
25   time-limited family support services to the child and the child's family in order  
26   to offer parents the opportunity to remedy parental conduct or conditions in the  
27   home that placed the child at risk of harm so that a child may return home  
28   safely and permanently; and

29                           (B) the state also recognizes that when a child is removed from  
30   the home, visitation between the child and the child's parents or guardian and  
31   family members reduces the trauma for the child and enhances the likelihood

1 that the child will be able to return home; therefore, whenever a child is  
 2 removed from the parental home, the Department of Health and Social  
 3 Services should encourage frequent, regular, and reasonable visitation of the  
 4 child with the child's parent or guardian and family members;

5 (3) it is the policy of the state to recognize that, when a child is a ward  
 6 of the state, the child is entitled to reasonable safety, adequate care, and adequate  
 7 treatment and that the Department of Health and Social Services as legal custodian and  
 8 the child's guardian ad litem as guardian of the child's best interests and their agents  
 9 and assignees, each should make reasonable efforts to ensure that the child is provided  
 10 with reasonable safety, adequate care, and adequate treatment for the duration of time  
 11 that the child is a ward of the state;

12 (4) it is in the best interests of a child who has been removed from the  
 13 child's own home for the state to apply the following principles in resolving the  
 14 situation:

15 (A) the child should be placed in a safe, secure, and stable  
 16 environment;

17 (B) the child should not be moved unnecessarily;

18 (C) a planning process should be followed to lead to permanent  
 19 placement of the child;

20 (D) every effort should be made to encourage psychological  
 21 attachment between the adult caregiver and the child;

22 (E) frequent, regular, and reasonable visitation with the parent  
 23 or guardian and family members should be encouraged; [AND]

24 (F) parents and guardians must actively participate in family  
 25 support services so as to facilitate the child's being able to remain in the home;  
 26 when children are removed from the home, the parents and guardians must  
 27 actively participate in family support services to make return of their children  
 28 to the home possible; **and**

29 **(G) to the extent practicable, the Department of Health and**  
 30 **Social Services should enable a child's contact with previous out-of-home**  
 31 **caregivers when appropriate and in the best interests of the child;**

1 (5) numerous studies establish that

2 (A) children undergo a critical attachment process before the  
3 time they reach six years of age;

4 (B) a child who has not attached with an adult caregiver during  
5 this critical stage will suffer significant emotional damage that frequently leads  
6 to chronic psychological problems and antisocial behavior when the child  
7 reaches adolescence and adulthood; and

8 (C) it is important to provide for an expedited placement  
9 procedure to ensure that all children, especially those under the age of six  
10 years, who have been removed from their homes are placed in permanent  
11 homes expeditiously.

12 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 47.05.310(c) is amended to read:

13 (c) **Except as provided in (l) of this section, the** [THE] department may not  
14 issue or renew a license or certification for an entity if an individual is applying for a  
15 license, license renewal, certification, or certification renewal for the entity and that

16 (1) individual has been found by a court or agency of this or another  
17 jurisdiction to have neglected, abused, or exploited a child or vulnerable adult under  
18 AS 47.10, AS 47.24, or AS 47.62 or a substantially similar provision in another  
19 jurisdiction, or to have committed medical assistance fraud under AS 47.05.210 or a  
20 substantially similar provision in another jurisdiction; or

21 (2) individual's name appears on the centralized registry established  
22 under AS 47.05.330 or a similar registry of this state or another jurisdiction.

23 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 47.05.310(i) is amended to read:

24 (i) **Except as provided in (l) of this section, for** [FOR] purposes of (b) and  
25 (c) of this section, in place of nonissuance or nonrenewal of a license or certification,  
26 an entity or individual service provider that is not required to be licensed or certified  
27 by the department or a person wishing to become an entity or individual service  
28 provider that is not required to be licensed or certified by the department is instead  
29 ineligible to receive a payment, in whole or in part, from the department to provide for  
30 the health, safety, and welfare of persons who are served by the programs  
31 administered by the department if the entity, individual service provider, or person

1 (1) is in violation of (a) of this section or would be in violation based  
 2 on information received by the department as part of an application, approval, or  
 3 selection process;

4 (2) has been found by a court or agency of this or another jurisdiction  
 5 to have neglected, abused, or exploited a child or vulnerable adult under AS 47.10,  
 6 AS 47.24, or AS 47.62 or a substantially similar provision in another jurisdiction, or to  
 7 have committed medical assistance fraud under AS 47.05.210 or a substantially  
 8 similar provision in another jurisdiction; or

9 (3) appears on the centralized registry established under AS 47.05.330  
 10 or a similar registry of this state or another jurisdiction.

11 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 47.05.310(k) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

12 (4) "adult family member" has the meaning given in AS 47.10.990;

13 (5) "foster home" has the meaning given in AS 47.32.900.

14 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 47.05.310 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15 (l) The department may issue or renew a foster home license under AS 47.32  
 16 or provide payments under AS 47.14.100(b) or (d) to an entity, individual service  
 17 provider, or person if the applicant or a person who resides in the home is barred from  
 18 licensure or payment under (c), (i)(2), or (i)(3) of this section and

19 (1) a person in the home is an adult family member or family friend of  
 20 a child in the custody or supervision of the state under AS 47.10;

21 (2) the department finds that placing the child with the entity,  
 22 individual service provider, or person is in the best interests of the child; and

23 (3) the conduct that is the basis of the finding under (c), (i)(2), or (i)(3)  
 24 of this section occurred at least 10 years before the date the department receives the  
 25 application for licensure or renewal or makes a payment to the entity, individual  
 26 service provider, or person.

27 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 47.10.080(s) is amended to read:

28 (s) The department may transfer a child, in the child's best interests, from one  
 29 placement setting to another, and the child, the child's parents or guardian, the child's  
 30 foster parents or out-of-home caregiver, the child's guardian ad litem, the child's  
 31 attorney, and the child's tribe are entitled to advance notice of a nonemergency

1 transfer. A party opposed to the proposed transfer may request a hearing and must  
 2 prove by clear and convincing evidence that the transfer would be contrary to the best  
 3 interests of the child for the court to deny the transfer. A foster parent or out-of-home  
 4 caregiver who requests a nonemergency change in placement of the child shall provide  
 5 the department with reasonable advance notice of the requested change. When the  
 6 department transfers a child from one out-of-home placement to another, the  
 7 department shall search for an appropriate placement with an adult family member or  
 8 a family friend who meets the foster care licensing requirements established by the  
 9 department. **A supervisor at the department shall certify in writing in the case file**  
 10 **whether the department has searched for an appropriate placement with an**  
 11 **adult family member or family friend. If the department has not complied with**  
 12 **the search requirements under this subsection, the supervisor shall work to**  
 13 **ensure that the department completes the search in the shortest time feasible.**

14 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 47.10.084 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15 (d) When the child is placed in foster care, the foster parent has the right and  
 16 responsibility to use a reasonable and prudent parent standard to make decisions  
 17 relating to the child. The foster parent may make decisions under (a) or (b) of this  
 18 section that include decisions relating to the child's participation in age-appropriate or  
 19 developmentally appropriate activities, including travel, sports, field trips, overnight  
 20 activities, and extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities. The  
 21 department shall provide foster parents with training regarding the reasonable and  
 22 prudent parent standard. In this subsection, "reasonable and prudent parent standard"  
 23 means a standard characterized by careful and sensible decisions to maintain the  
 24 health, safety, and best interests of the child while encouraging the emotional and  
 25 developmental growth of the child.

26 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 47.10.086 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

27 (h) The department shall engage a child who is 14 years of age or older in the  
 28 development or revision of a case plan, permanency goal, or alternative permanency  
 29 plan for the child. The department shall also allow the child to select not more than  
 30 two adults to participate in the development or revision of the plan in addition to the  
 31 child's foster parents or department employees who are supervising the care of the

1 child. The department may reject an adult selected by the child if the department has  
 2 good cause to believe that the adult will not act in the best interests of the child. If the  
 3 department rejects an adult, the child may select another adult. The child may  
 4 designate one of the adults to be the child's advisor, and the advisor may advocate for  
 5 the child.

6 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 47.10.093(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) Except as permitted in AS 47.10.092, [AND IN] (b) - (g) and (i) - (l) of  
 8 this section, **and AS 47.17.030(g)**, all information and social records pertaining to a  
 9 child who is subject to this chapter or AS 47.17 prepared by or in the possession of a  
 10 federal, state, or municipal agency or employee in the discharge of the agency's or  
 11 employee's official duty are privileged and may not be disclosed directly or indirectly  
 12 to anyone without a court order.

13 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 47.10.093(b) is amended to read:

14 (b) A state or municipal agency or employee shall disclose appropriate  
 15 confidential information regarding a case to

16 (1) a guardian ad litem appointed by the court;

17 (2) a person or an agency requested by the department or the child's  
 18 legal custodian to provide consultation or services for a child who is subject to the  
 19 jurisdiction of the court under AS 47.10.010 as necessary to enable the provision of  
 20 the consultation or services;

21 (3) an out-of-home care provider as necessary to enable the out-of-  
 22 home care provider to provide appropriate care to the child, to protect the safety of the  
 23 child, and to protect the safety and property of family members and visitors of the out-  
 24 of-home care provider;

25 (4) a school official as necessary to enable the school to provide  
 26 appropriate counseling and support services to a child who is the subject of the case, to  
 27 protect the safety of the child, and to protect the safety of school students and staff;

28 (5) a governmental agency as necessary to obtain that agency's  
 29 assistance for the department in its investigation or to obtain physical custody of a  
 30 child;

31 (6) a law enforcement agency of this state or another jurisdiction as

1 necessary for the protection of any child or for actions by that agency to protect the  
2 public safety;

3 (7) a member of a multidisciplinary child protection team created  
4 under AS 47.14.300 as necessary for the performance of the member's duties;

5 (8) the state medical examiner under AS 12.65 as necessary for the  
6 performance of the duties of the state medical examiner;

7 (9) a person who has made a report of harm as required by  
8 AS 47.17.020 to inform the person that the investigation was completed and of action  
9 taken to protect the child who was the subject of the report;

10 (10) the child support services agency established in AS 25.27.010 as  
11 necessary to establish and collect child support for a child who is a child in need of aid  
12 under this chapter;

13 (11) a parent, guardian, or caregiver of a child or an entity responsible  
14 for ensuring the safety of children as necessary to protect the safety of a child;

15 (12) a review panel established by the department for the purpose of  
16 reviewing the actions taken by the department in a specific case;

17 (13) the University of Alaska under the Alaska higher education  
18 savings program for children established under AS 47.14.400, but only to the extent  
19 that the information is necessary to support the program and only if the information  
20 released is maintained as a confidential record by the University of Alaska;

21 (14) a child placement agency licensed under AS 47.32 as necessary to  
22 provide services for a child who is the subject of the case; [AND]

23 (15) a state or municipal agency of this state or another jurisdiction  
24 that is responsible for delinquent minors, as may be necessary for the administration of  
25 services, protection, rehabilitation, or supervision of a child or for actions by the  
26 agency to protect the public safety; however, a court may review an objection made to  
27 a disclosure under this paragraph; the person objecting to the disclosure bears the  
28 burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that disclosure is not in the  
29 child's best interest; **and**

30 **(16) a sibling of a child who is the subject of the case to allow the**  
31 **siblings to contact each other if it is in the best interests of the child to maintain**

1 **contact; in this paragraph, "sibling" means an adult or minor who is related to**  
 2 **the child who is the subject of the case by blood, adoption, or marriage as a child**  
 3 **of one or both of the parents of the child who is the subject of the case; a sibling**  
 4 **who is adopted by a person other than the parent of the child who is the subject**  
 5 **of the case remains a sibling of the child.**

6 \* Sec. 12. AS 47.10.142(i) is amended to read:

7 (i) When the department takes emergency custody of a child under this section  
 8 or a court orders a child committed to the department for temporary placement under  
 9 this section, the department shall, to the extent feasible and consistent with the best  
 10 interests of the child, place the child according to the criteria specified under  
 11 AS 47.14.100(e). **A supervisor at the department shall certify in writing in the**  
 12 **case file whether the department has searched for an appropriate placement with**  
 13 **an adult family member or family friend. If the department has not complied**  
 14 **with the search requirements under this subsection, the supervisor shall work to**  
 15 **ensure that the department completes the search in the shortest time feasible if it**  
 16 **is consistent with the best interests of the child.**

17 \* Sec. 13. AS 47.14.100(e) is amended to read:

18 (e) When a child is removed from a parent's home, the department shall  
 19 **search for an appropriate placement with an adult family member or family**  
 20 **friend. A supervisor at the department shall certify in writing in the case file**  
 21 **whether the department has searched for an appropriate placement with an**  
 22 **adult family member or family friend. If the department has not complied with**  
 23 **the search requirements under this subsection, the supervisor shall work to**  
 24 **ensure that the department completes the search in the shortest time feasible. The**  
 25 **department shall** place the child, in the absence of clear and convincing evidence of  
 26 good cause to the contrary,

27 (1) in the least restrictive setting that most closely approximates a  
 28 family and that meets the child's special needs, if any;

29 (2) within reasonable proximity to the child's home, taking into  
 30 account any special needs of the child and the preferences of the child or parent;

31 (3) with, in the following order of preference,

- 1 (A) an adult family member;
- 2 (B) a family friend who meets the foster care licensing  
3 requirements established by the department;
- 4 (C) a licensed foster home that is not an adult family member  
5 or family friend;
- 6 (D) an institution for children that has a program suitable to  
7 meet the child's needs.

8 \* **Sec. 14.** AS 47.14.100(i) is amended to read:

9 (i) A child may not be placed with an out-of-home care provider if the  
10 department determines that the child can remain safely at home with **an adult family**  
11 **member** [ONE PARENT] or guardian **who lives with the child**. In this subsection,  
12 "out-of-home care provider" means an agency or person, other than the child's legal  
13 parents, with whom a child who is in the custody of the state under  
14 AS 47.10.080(c)(1) or (3), 47.10.142, or (c) of this section is currently placed; "agency  
15 or person" includes a foster parent, a relative other than a parent, a person who has  
16 petitioned for adoption of the child, and a residential child care facility.

17 \* **Sec. 15.** AS 47.14.100(r) is amended to read:

18 (r) The department shall make reasonable efforts to place siblings in the same  
19 placement if the siblings are residing in the same home when taken into the custody of  
20 the department. If siblings are not placed together after reasonable efforts have been  
21 made, the case supervisor for the division with responsibility over the custody of  
22 children shall document in the file the efforts that were made and the reason separating  
23 the siblings for placement purposes is in the best interest of the children. **If it is in the**  
24 **best interests of the children to maintain contact, the department shall provide**  
25 **each sibling with contact information for the other sibling and encourage the**  
26 **children's caregivers to provide opportunities for contact between the siblings.** In  
27 this subsection, "sibling" means two or more persons who are related by blood,  
28 adoption, or marriage as a child of one or both parents.

29 \* **Sec. 16.** AS 47.14 is amended by adding a new section to read:

30 **Sec. 47.14.112. Training and workload standards; reports to legislature.**

31 (a) The department shall implement workload standards and a training program for

1 employees who supervise the care of children committed to the supervision or custody  
 2 of the department under AS 47.10, work with families to prevent the removal of a  
 3 child from the child's home under AS 47.10, or investigate reports of harm under  
 4 AS 47.17. Except as provided under (b) of this section, the department shall prepare a  
 5 staffing report if the department is unable

6 (1) to employ the number of qualified employees necessary to ensure  
 7 that

8 (A) the department reasonably and safely minimizes the time a  
 9 child is not in a permanent living arrangement or under a permanent  
 10 guardianship;

11 (B) a child is not removed from the child's home when it is  
 12 possible and in the child's best interest for the department to work with the  
 13 child's family to prevent the removal of the child from the child's home;

14 (C) each child is placed in a permanent home not more than 24  
 15 months after the date the child is first removed from the child's home;

16 (2) to meet best practices standards set by the department requiring the  
 17 employment of mentors for employees who supervise the care of children committed  
 18 to the supervision or custody of the department under AS 47.10, work with families to  
 19 prevent the removal of a child from the child's home under AS 47.10, or investigate  
 20 reports of harm under AS 47.17;

21 (3) for a new employee who supervises the care of a child committed  
 22 to the supervision or custody of the department under AS 47.10, works with families  
 23 to prevent the removal of a child from the child's home under AS 47.10, or  
 24 investigates reports of harm under AS 47.17, to

25 (A) provide a minimum of six weeks of training unless the  
 26 department finds that the new employee has sufficient experience to justify a  
 27 shorter training period;

28 (B) limit the employee's workload as follows:

29 (i) before the beginning of an employee's fourth month  
 30 of work with the department, the employee may supervise not more  
 31 than six families;

1 (ii) after the beginning of the employee's fourth month  
 2 of work but before the end of the employee's sixth month of work with  
 3 the department, the employee may supervise not more than 12 families;

4 (iii) when an employee supervises families in a region  
 5 where travel distances negatively affect the employee's ability to  
 6 supervise families and the employee has worked for the department for  
 7 less than 12 months, the employee may not supervise the maximum  
 8 number of families provided under (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph; and

9 (4) for an employee, other than a new employee, who supervises the  
 10 care of children committed to the supervision or custody of the department under  
 11 AS 47.10, works with families to prevent the removal of a child from the child's home  
 12 under AS 47.10, or investigates reports of harm under AS 47.17, to ensure that the  
 13 average statewide caseload is not more than 13 families for each worker.

14 (b) If a staffing report is required under (a) of this section, the department  
 15 shall explain in the staffing report why the department is not able to meet the  
 16 standards, the amount of funding that would be necessary to meet the standards, and  
 17 the effects on a child and the child's family of not meeting the standards. The  
 18 department shall include the staffing report in the annual report to the legislature  
 19 required under AS 18.05.020.

20 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department is  
 21 immune from suit under this section if the department was unable to meet the  
 22 workload standards and adjusted workload standards because of a lack of sufficient  
 23 appropriations or because the department's efforts to recruit or retain employees did  
 24 not result in an adequate number of qualified applicants to meet the workload  
 25 standards, as outlined in the staffing report.

26 (d) The division of the department with responsibility over the custody of  
 27 children shall prepare and make available to the legislature an annual report on  
 28 employee recruitment and retention, including a five-year plan, for the division. Not  
 29 later than November 15 of each year, the department shall deliver the report to the  
 30 senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the  
 31 legislature that the report is available. The report prepared under this subsection is

1 separate from the annual report to the legislature required under AS 18.05.020.

2 \* **Sec. 17.** AS 47.14.115 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 (b) If the department determines that it is in the best interests of a child in the  
4 department's custody to place the child with an adult family member who does not  
5 have a foster care home license under AS 47.32, the department shall assist the adult  
6 family member in obtaining a license, including assisting the adult family member  
7 with obtaining any variances necessary to obtain the license, so that the family  
8 member is eligible for payments under AS 47.14.100(b) and (d).

9 \* **Sec. 18.** AS 47.17.030 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (g) When the department or a local government health or social services  
11 agency (1) completes an investigation of a report of harm concerning a child, (2)  
12 determines, based on the investigation findings, that department or local agency  
13 services to protect the child are not required, and (3) identifies an appropriate  
14 community organization that will actively reach out to families to provide needed  
15 support services, the department or local government health or social services agency  
16 shall seek the written consent of the child's parent or guardian to refer the family to the  
17 community organization. If the parent or guardian consents to the referral, the  
18 department or local government health or social services agency shall refer the parent  
19 or guardian to the community organization identified by the department. If the child  
20 has more than one parent or guardian and only one parent or guardian consents to the  
21 referral, the department or local government health or social services agency shall  
22 refer the parent or guardian who consents to the community organization but may not  
23 provide information to the community organization concerning the parent or guardian  
24 who does not consent to the referral. A community organization that receives  
25 information from the department or a local government health or social services  
26 agency under this subsection may not disclose the information to a person who is not  
27 authorized by law to receive it.

28 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 47.18.320 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

29 (d) When an individual 16 years of age or older who has been in state custody  
30 under AS 47.10 for at least six months is released from state custody, the department  
31 shall, in addition to any training, services, and assistance provided under (a) - (c) of

1 this section, provide the individual with or assist the individual with obtaining the  
2 individual's

3 (1) birth certificate; the birth certificate may be an official or certified  
4 copy;

5 (2) social security card;

6 (3) health insurance information;

7 (4) medical records;

8 (5) driver's license or identification card; and

9 (6) certificate of degree of Indian or Alaska Native blood, if  
10 applicable.

11 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 47.32.032 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

12 (c) To the extent feasible, the department shall approve or deny a foster care  
13 home license, including a request for a variance under this section, not more than 45  
14 days after the date the department receives the application for a foster care home  
15 license. If it is not feasible to approve or deny a foster care home license not more than  
16 45 days after receiving the application, a supervisory-level employee may authorize a  
17 longer period of time for the decision, but the period must be the shortest period  
18 feasible.

19 \* **Sec. 21.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
20 read:

21 **APPLICABILITY.** (a) Sections 2, 7 - 9, 11 - 15, 17, and 19 of this Act apply to a child  
22 in the custody or under the supervision of the Department of Health and Social Services under  
23 AS 47.10 on or after the effective date of secs. 2, 7 - 9, 11 - 15, 17, and 19 of this Act.

24 (b) Sections 3 - 6 and 20 of this Act apply to applications for a license, license  
25 renewal, certification, certification renewal, or payment received by the Department of Health  
26 and Social Services on or after the effective date of secs. 3 - 6 and 20 of this Act.

27 \* **Sec. 22.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
28 read:

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

1 law implemented by the regulation.

2 \* **Sec. 23.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
3 read:

4 TRANSITION: IMPLEMENTATION. The Department of Health and Social Services  
5 shall implement all of the provisions of this Act as expeditiously as possible. Notwithstanding  
6 this requirement, the Department of Health and Social Services shall, not later than

7 (1) 90 days after the effective date of secs. 7 - 9 and 12 - 14 of this Act,  
8 implement the changes made by AS 47.10.080(s), as amended by sec. 7 of this Act,  
9 AS 47.10.084(d), enacted by sec. 8 of this Act, AS 47.10.086(h), enacted by sec. 9 of this Act,  
10 AS 47.10.142(i), as amended by sec. 12 of this Act, AS 47.14.100(e), as amended by sec. 13  
11 of this Act, and AS 47.14.100(i), as amended by sec. 14 of this Act;

12 (2) one year after the effective date of secs. 2 - 6, 11, 15 - 17, 19, and 20 of  
13 this Act, implement the changes made by AS 47.05.065, as amended by sec. 2 of this Act,  
14 AS 47.05.310(c), as amended by sec. 3 of this Act, AS 47.05.310(i), as amended by sec. 4 of  
15 this Act, AS 47.05.310(k), as amended by sec. 5 of this Act, AS 47.05.310(l), enacted by sec.  
16 6 of this Act, AS 47.10.093(b), as amended by sec. 11 of this Act, AS 47.14.100(r), as  
17 amended by sec. 15 of this Act, AS 47.14.112(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3)(A), and (b), enacted by sec.  
18 16 of this Act, AS 47.14.115(b), enacted by sec. 17 of this Act, AS 47.18.320(d), enacted by  
19 sec. 19 of this Act, and AS 47.32.032(c), enacted by sec. 20 of this Act;

20 (3) two years after the effective date of sec. 16 of this Act, implement the  
21 changes made by AS 47.14.112(a)(3)(B) and (a)(4), enacted by sec. 16 of this Act.

22 \* **Sec. 24.** Section 22 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).