

HOUSE BILL NO. 176

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES WOOL, Fansler, Gara, Talerico, Wilson, Thompson, Grenn, Kawasaki, Ortiz, Millett, Birch, Tuck, Josephson, Parish, Rauscher

Introduced: 3/14/17

Referred: Health and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to medical assistance reimbursement for ground emergency medical**
2 **transportation services; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 47.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 47.07.085. Supplemental reimbursement for ground emergency**
6 **medical transportation services.** (a) The department shall develop a program to
7 provide supplemental reimbursement to eligible ground emergency medical
8 transportation service providers for the cost of providing services to medical assistance
9 recipients. The amount of the supplemental reimbursement must be equal to the
10 amount of federal financial participation that the department receives as
11 reimbursement for the provider's cost for the ground emergency medical transportation
12 services, less any administrative expenses. Under the program, the department shall
13 use intergovernmental transfers, or certified public expenditures, or both, for the
14 nonfederal share of ground emergency medical transportation services that are eligible

1 for federal financial participation under the medical assistance program.

2 (b) The amount a provider receives in supplemental reimbursements under the
3 program, when combined with the amount the provider receives from all other
4 sources, including medical assistance reimbursement under the state plan, may not
5 exceed the provider's actual cost for providing ground emergency medical
6 transportation services to medical assistance recipients.

7 (c) A ground emergency medical transportation service provider is eligible to
8 participate in the program if the provider

9 (1) is enrolled with the department as a medical assistance provider;

10 (2) voluntarily enters into an agreement with the department to
11 participate in the program;

12 (3) is owned or operated by the state, a political subdivision of the
13 state, or a federally recognized tribe or tribal organization;

14 (4) charges for ground emergency medical transportation services on a
15 fee-for-service or other federally permissible basis; and

16 (5) certifies that the provider's expenditures for ground emergency
17 medical transportation services qualify for federal financial participation.

18 (d) The department may charge an administrative fee to a provider who
19 participates in the program to cover the department's costs for administering the
20 program. The administrative fee may not exceed 20 percent of a provider's cost for
21 providing ground emergency medical transportation services.

22 (e) If the United States Department of Health and Human Services revokes
23 approval of the program, the department shall provide notice to the legislature. The
24 department shall submit written notice to the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk
25 of the house of representatives as early as possible after the United States Department
26 of Health and Human Services expresses its intent to revoke approval of the program.

27 (f) Supplemental reimbursement payments are subject to appropriation.

28 (g) In this section,

29 (1) "program" means the supplemental reimbursement program
30 developed by the department under this section;

31 (2) "provider" means an eligible ground emergency medical

1 transportation service provider;

2 (3) "state plan" means the state plan for medical assistance coverage
3 developed under AS 47.07.040.

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

6 MEDICAID STATE PLAN AMENDMENT; NOTICE TO REVISOR OF
7 STATUTES. The Department of Health and Social Services shall amend and submit for
8 federal approval a state plan for medical assistance reimbursement consistent with this Act.
9 The commissioner of health and social services shall certify to the revisor of statutes if all of
10 the provisions of AS 47.07.085, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, are approved by the United
11 States Department of Health and Human Services.

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

14 CONDITIONAL EFFECT. AS 47.07.085, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect
15 only if the commissioner of health and social services certifies to the revisor of statutes under
16 sec. 2 of this Act, on or before November 1, 2018, that all of the provisions added by
17 AS 47.07.085 have been approved by the United States Department of Health and Human
18 Services.

19 * **Sec. 4.** If AS 47.07.085, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect, it takes effect on the
20 day after the date the commissioner of health and social services makes a certification to the
21 revisor of statutes under sec. 2 of this Act.