

1 IN THE SENATE

BY RAY

2 SENATE BILL NO. 19

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the retention of patient records."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 08.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9 Sec. 08.20.105. PATIENT RECORDS RETENTION. (a) Unless specified
10 otherwise by the Department of Health and Welfare, a chiropractor shall
11 retain and preserve records which relate directly to the care and
12 treatment of a patient for a period of seven years following the
13 discharge of the patient. However, the records of a patient under 19
14 years of age shall be kept at least two years beyond the patient's 19th
15 birthday or seven years following the discharge of the patient, which-
16 ever is longer. Records consisting of X-ray film are required to be
17 retained for five years.

18 (b) The Department of Health and Welfare shall by regulation
19 define the types of records and the information required to be included
20 in the records retained and preserved under (a) of this section. The
21 department may by regulation specify records and information to be
22 retained for longer periods than those set out in (a) of this section.

23 (c) If a chiropractor ceases to practice, he shall make immediate
24 arrangements, as approved by the department, for the preservation of
25 his records.

26 * Sec. 2. AS 08.36 is amended by adding a new section to read:

27 Sec. 08.36.105. PATIENT RECORDS RETENTION. (a) Unless specified
28 otherwise by the Department of Health and Welfare, a dentist shall
29 retain and preserve records which relate directly to the care and

1 treatment of a patient for a period of seven years following the
2 discharge of the patient. However, the records of a patient under 19
3 years of age shall be kept at least two years beyond the patient's 19th
4 birthday or seven years following the discharge of the patient, which-
5 ever is longer. Records consisting of X-ray film are required to be
6 retained for five years.

7 (b) The Department of Health and Welfare shall by regulation
8 define the types of records and the information required to be included
9 in the records retained and preserved under (a) of this section. The
10 department may by regulation specify records and information to be
11 retained for longer periods than those set out in (a) of this section.

12 (c) If a dentist ceases to practice, he shall make immediate
13 arrangements, as approved by the department, for the preservation of
14 his records.

15 * Sec. 3. AS 08.64 is amended by adding a new section to read:

16 Sec. 08.64.175. PATIENT RECORDS RETENTION. (a) Unless specified
17 otherwise by the Department of Health and Welfare, a physician or
18 osteopath shall retain and preserve records which relate directly to
19 the care and treatment of a patient for a period of seven years
20 following the discharge of the patient. However, the records of a
21 patient under 19 years of age shall be kept at least two years beyond
22 the patient's 19th birthday or until seven years following the discharge
23 of the patient, whichever is longer. Records consisting of X-ray film
24 are required to be retained for five years.

25 (b) The Department of Health and Welfare shall by regulation
26 define the types of records and the information required to be included
27 in the records retained and preserved under (a) of this section. The
28 department may be regulation specify records and information to be
29 retained for longer periods than those set out in (a) of this section.

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(c) If a physician or osteopath ceases to practice, he shall make immediate arrangements, as approved by the department, for the preservation of his records.