

Introduced: 1/15/73
Referred: Health, Welfare &
Education and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FRITZ

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the medicaid program
6 in Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS it has been the custom of Alaska physicians to care for all
9 Alaskans regardless of their economic viability or social status, or any
10 other circumstance of life that may differentiate our citizens from one
11 another; and

12 WHEREAS this has been considered part of the practice of medicine since
13 the time of Hippocrates; and

14 WHEREAS up until the institution of the medicaid program in Alaska
15 physicians have been able to look after the poor people under various federal
16 and state programs generally to the satisfaction of all concerned; and

17 WHEREAS the Alaska State Medical Association and many others opposed
18 the medicaid legislation because of the almost universal difficulty experi-
19 enced in every state in the union that has undertaken the administration of
20 the program; and

21 WHEREAS over 35 individual physicians to date have resigned from the
22 Alaska medicaid plan because it has proven unworkable; and

23 WHEREAS, in spite of the promises of various officials in the Alaska
24 Department of Health and Social Services, the administrative chaos continues
25 and unilateral decisions regarding the care of patients, plus an unreasonable
26 amount of paperwork, together with the downward adjustment of fees, have
27 made it impossible for physicians to care for many Alaskans; and

28 WHEREAS there are allegedly gross distortions of the federal regulations
29 for medicaid as implemented in Alaska by the Department of Health and

1 Social Services;

2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature that the President of the Senate and
3 the Speaker of the House are requested to appoint a special subcommittee to
4 be composed of members of the Senate and House Committees on Health, Welfare
5 and Education to investigate all phases of the medicaid program in Alaska,
6 including the holding of widely publicized hearings in various areas of the
7 state, in order to provide medical services to the poor and to make either
8 recommendations or initiate legislation to correct inequities and ineffi-
9 ciencies that so far have resulted in substandard care for a large segment of
10 our population requiring it; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED that the report, including recommendations in written
12 or bill form, of the special committee be submitted to the Eighth Legisla-
13 ture - Second Session.

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