

Introduced: 2/18/80
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MARTIN AND HAYES

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 52

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Directing the Legislative Council to
6 evaluate the state's Medicaid and
7 general relief medical programs and
8 to investigate alternatives for
9 meeting the health care needs of the
10 state's citizens.

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

12 WHEREAS it is estimated that \$400,000,000 is spent annually on health
13 care in Alaska, and of that amount, \$50,000,000 will be spent by the state's
14 Medicaid and general relief medical programs this fiscal year; and

15 WHEREAS by the end of fiscal year 1981 the costs of these programs will
16 have increased over 300 percent in the past five years; and

17 WHEREAS the Medicaid program has not provided prompt reimbursement to
18 health care providers serving Medicaid patients, thereby making it difficult
19 for these patients to secure services; and

20 WHEREAS existing state medical services record systems do not provide
21 adequate information on the extent and nature of medical care provided; and

22 WHEREAS many Alaskans receive inadequate medical services, while others
23 have more services available to them than they need or use; and

24 WHEREAS other states are exploring alternatives to participation in the
25 federal Medicaid program and some have recently taken innovative steps to
26 assure that their citizens' health care needs are better served and that
27 money spent on health care is more effectively spent;

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Legislative
29 Council is directed to conduct a study that would evaluate:

1 (1) the health care needs of Alaskans, the services currently
2 available to meet those needs, and the present means of financing the cost of
3 those services;

4 (2) the cost implications of the state withdrawing, in part or in
5 whole, from the federal Medicaid program;

6 (3) the feasibility of other means of health care financing in
7 Alaska, including, but not limited to, expanded private insurance coverage
8 and state delivery of services to medically underserved citizens, directly or
9 indirectly through private, nonprofit corporations; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the parties affected, including private health
11 care providers, insurance carriers, the federal government, and the Depart-
12 ment of Health and Social Services be involved in the study; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED that a report containing the study's findings and
14 options for legislative action be submitted to the First Session of the
15 Twelfth Legislature not later than February 1, 1981.

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