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Referred: Health, Education
& Social Services and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY HACKNEY AND STIMSON

2 SENATE BILL NO. 214

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a state program providing dental
7 assistance for needy persons; and providing for an
8 effective date."

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

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

11 Sec. 47.07.035. DENTAL SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED. (a) Dental
12 services to be offered to eligible persons include only emergency dental
13 services and denture services.

14 (b) Payments for emergency dental services do not require prior
15 authorization by the department. Except when required by unusual
16 physiological circumstances, emergency dental services for which payment
17 is allowed under this section include only

- 18 (1) two emergencies within a fiscal year;
19 (2) one visit per emergency;
20 (3) three extractions per visit; and
21 (4) single film x-rays of areas to be treated.

22 (c) Payments for denture services require the prior approval of
23 the department. Denture services for which payment is allowed under
24 this section includes payment for only

25 (1) complete dentures, exclusive of partial dentures, immedi-
26 ate dentures, or appliances that are not complete upper or lower den-
27 tures;

- 28 (2) unless required by unusual physiological circumstances,
29 (A) one set of dentures within five years;

1 (B) relinement or rebasing of existing denture sets not
2 more often than once each three years;

3 (C) relinement of dentures only if the relinement occurs
4 more than 12 months after receipt of the dentures;

5 (3) new dentures only if a relinement or duplication will not
6 satisfactorily resolve problems with existing dentures;

7 (4) replacement dentures only if the dentures to be issued
8 are not issued as replacement for lost or stolen dentures previously
9 paid for under this section; and

10 (5) dentures of standard materials, excluding payment of
11 dentures composed of nonstandard materials, acrylic bodies, case clamps,
12 and chrome alloy devices.

13 (d) Payment may not be made under this section for

14 (1) cosmetic procedures;

15 (2) gold or porcelain restoration;

16 (3) sedative filling or palliative treatment in place of
17 permanent repair;

18 (4) extractions on asymptomatic teeth;

19 (5) broken dental appointments;

20 (6) nonemergency dental care performed in a hospital, nursing
21 home, or at patient's residence; or

22 (7) dental specialty services, including but not limited to,
23 orthodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics (including fixed and partial
24 bridgework), endodontics, and crowns.

25 * Sec. 2. AS 47.07.080 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

26 (5) "complete dentures" means artificial structures made by
27 or under the direction of a dentist to substitute missing upper or lower
28 full sets of teeth;

29 (6) "department" means the Department of Health and Social

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Services;

(7) "emergency dental services" means those services provided by or under the direction of a dentist in the practice of his profession including emergency treatment of

(A) pain or acute infection,

(B) bleeding,

(C) injuries of the oral cavity or related structures, including reduction of fractures of maxilla or mandible and dislocation of the mandible, and

(D) conditions requiring emergency surgery to the jaw or related structures requiring services of a qualified oral surgeon;

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1979.