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Referred: Health, Education & Social
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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 39

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to services for pregnant women; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The legislature finds
10 that there are insufficient maternal and infant care services available to
11 women experiencing social and economic difficulties associated with child-
12 bearing. As a result of these inadequate services, some children may
13 develop health conditions that require state-supported services throughout
14 their lives. In order to promote healthier generations of Alaskans, the
15 legislature wishes to invest in the state's future by providing prenatal
16 care and social services to pregnant women.

17 * Sec. 2. AS 47 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

18 CHAPTER 42. PURCHASE OF SERVICES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN.

19 Sec. 47.42.010. PURCHASE OF SERVICES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN. The
20 Department of Health and Social Services shall pay the cost of pre-
21 natal services other than medical services for a pregnant woman ex-
22 perienceing social and economic difficulties, including the costs of
23 birthing centers, midwife services, and transportation to and from a
24 maternity home or a foster home, counseling, adoption assistance,
25 maternity home and foster home care, postnatal care, and parenting
26 skills.

27 Sec. 47.42.020. LICENSING AND SUPERVISION. A person provid-ing
28 services purchased by the Department of Health and Social Services
29 under this chapter shall, if required to be licensed under AS 47.35,

1 be licensed and supervised in the same manner as foster homes, board-
2 ing homes, maternity homes, and other agencies and institutions under
3 AS 47.35.

4 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
5 10.070(c).

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