

Introduced: 2/17/86
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services, Judiciary
and Finance

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 678

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the general relief assistance
7 program; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 47.25.130 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 47.25.130. AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE. (a) The amount of assis-
11 tance for a needy person must [SHALL] be determined by the department
12 with regard to the resources and needs of the person and the condi-
13 tions existing in each case. Where possible, assistance shall be
14 sufficient to provide the applicant with reasonable subsistence ac-
15 cording to standards of assistance established by the department.
16 However, the amount of the assistance for subsistence needs may not
17 exceed \$120 a person a calendar month.

18 (b) To determine the amount of assistance for a needy person
19 under (a) of this section, the department may consider the income and
20 resources of all persons who reside with the needy person and are
21 either related to the needy person by blood, marriage, or adoption, or
22 would benefit directly from the financial assistance given under
23 AS 47.25.120 -- 47.25.300.

24 (c) The amount of assistance paid to or on behalf of a needy
25 person for medical care services may not exceed \$25,000 per year.

26 (d) The department shall, by regulation, establish the cat-
27 egories of medical care services which the department may provide to a
28 needy person under AS 47.25.120 -- 47.25.300, any conditions applica-
29 ble to those services, and a priority listing of which categories of

1 service may be reduced or eliminated if the department finds that such
2 action is necessary in order to ensure that, taking into consideration
3 projected use, the medical assistance program does not exceed the
4 funds appropriated for the program.

5 * Sec. 2. AS 47.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 Sec. 47.25.135. LIABILITY OF NEEDY PERSON FOR A PORTION OF
7 MEDICAL CARE EXPENSES. (a) The department may require a needy person
8 who is eligible for assistance under AS 47.25.120 to pay for a portion
9 of the medical care expenses incurred by the needy person, except that
10 the liability of the needy person may not exceed (1) \$50 for each day
11 of inpatient stay or \$200 per hospital admission, whichever is less,
12 or (2) \$20 for each outpatient visit.

13 (b) If a needy person is required under (a) of this section to
14 pay for a portion of the medical care expenses, the department shall
15 deduct the required portion owed by the needy person from the amount
16 of assistance paid to the medical provider under AS 47.25.120 --
17 47.25.300 on behalf of the person.

18 * Sec. 3. AS 47.25.195 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

19 (d) If insufficient money is appropriated to fund medical assis-
20 tance under AS 47.25.120 -- 47.25.300 when taking into consideration
21 projected use and the health facility payment rates established in
22 accordance with (b) of this section, the department may, by regula-
23 tion, establish at any time in the fiscal year a prospective pro rata
24 reduction of the facilities' payment rates that will be paid by the
25 department for services provided by facilities under AS 47.25.120 --
26 47.25.300.

27 * Sec. 4. AS 47.25.250 is amended to read:

28 Sec. 47.25.250. TEMPORARY RELIEF. When a needy person is not
29 entitled to assistance under AS 47.25.120 -- 47.25.300 and has no

1 relatives in the state liable for support under AS 47.25.230 and
2 47.25.240, the needy person may receive temporary assistance in the
3 form and amount which the department considers necessary. Temporary
4 assistance for needs other than [TRANSPORTATION AND] medical care may
5 not exceed \$120 per person per month.

6 * Sec. 5. AS 47.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

7 Sec. 47.25.262. MEDICAL CARE REPAYMENT. The department may
8 require a needy person to repay the full amount of assistance received
9 under AS 47.25.120 -- 47.25.300 for medical care, if the needy person,
10 within two years after the receipt of assistance, receives income and
11 resources sufficient to cover the payment of the assistance. The
12 commissioner may adopt regulations necessary to implement this sec-
13 tion.

14 * Sec. 6. AS 47.25.252 is repealed.

15 * Sec. 7. This Act takes effect July 1, 1986.

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