

Original sponsor(s): Rules Committee by Request of the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE HESS COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46 (HESS)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to the Health Care Cost Con-
6 tainment Task Force.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS the First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature
9 resolved to determine ways to contain or reduce the increasing cost of
10 group health insurance to the state and its political subdivisions; and
11 WHEREAS the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force established for
12 this purpose in 1989 by Legislative Resolve No. 8 has made substantial
13 progress in achieving savings and health care cost reductions; and
14 WHEREAS these efforts have resulted in
15 (1) \$4,000,000 of refunds to the state for fiscal year 1989;
16 (2) implementation of cost containment measures in the state's
17 health plans that will reduce cost increases by \$4,500,000 in fiscal year
18 1990 and \$7,000,000 in the years ahead;
19 (3) reduction in the amount of the health insurance premium for
20 the state's active employees from \$431.72 to \$385.00 per month per employee
21 that is guaranteed until February 1, 1991; and
22 (4) a \$9 reduction in the amount of the health insurance premium
23 for the state's retirees, to \$244 per retiree, that is also guaranteed
24 until February 1, 1991, and resulting in a saving to the state's pension
25 funds of \$1,200,000; and
26 WHEREAS the task force is investigating other measures that have
27 potential for long-term control of medical and health care cost inflation,
28 principally through insurance pooling, self-insurance options, health care
29 purchasing groups, and provider payment schedules; and

1 WHEREAS pending federal and state legislation could substantially
2 shift additional health costs to the state; and

3 WHEREAS there is evidence that the unpaid portion of the cost of
4 health care for state residents who are uninsured is included in the cost
5 of health insurance for employees in both the private sector and govern-
6 ment; and

7 WHEREAS the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force is scheduled to
8 terminate January 31, 1990;

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Health Care
10 Cost Containment Task Force established in 1989 by Legislative Resolve
11 No. 8 shall continue the work described in its January 31, 1990, report to
12 the legislature; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force also
14 examine the number of state residents without health insurance or the
15 benefit of government health care programs, the cost of providing health
16 care for state residents who are uninsured, and the effects of the cost
17 shifting from uninsured residents' health care to insured private and
18 government employers, medicare and workers' compensation programs, and
19 recommend solutions regarding the problem of health care for the uninsured,
20 including recommended solutions to the Universal Health Care Task Force, if
21 it is created by the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature; and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force
23 terminates on February 15, 1991; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force
25 shall submit a final report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed
26 legislation to the governor and the legislature by February 15, 1991.