



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1990

**Source**

CSSB 326(Fin)

**Chapter No.**

107

**AN ACT**

Relating to grants for health planning; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1, LINE 9

Approved by the Governor: June 14, 1990  
Actual Effective Date: July 1, 1990

AN ACT

Relating to grants for health planning; and providing  
for an effective date.

\* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. (a) The purpose of the grant program established under this Act is to encourage community and regional planning for health services and to promote coordinated planning in those instances where communities or regions may share resources. Grant funding will be available to purchase professional expertise in completing needs assessments, market surveys, management and financial studies, and other community and regional analyses that will assist community and regional health leaders to develop planning strategies for improved health services.

(b) The department is encouraged to assist communities and regions to engage in cooperative planning. Cooperative planning among communities and regions will allow efficient use of consultant services purchased with grant funds, avoid unnecessary duplication of health services that could be shared by communities and regions, and provide increased accessibility and affordability of health care services.

(c) To the extent that it is reasonable, the format for community or regional health planning supported by the grants made under this Act should be consistent among grantees so that the community and regional health service data and other information will be useful for statewide health planning purposes.

\* Sec. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR HEALTH PLANNING. (a) The Department of Health and Social Services shall establish a grant program under which up

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1 to 12 municipalities, nonprofit entities serving Native service areas, or  
2 rural government entities providing health care services in a health ser-  
3 vice area may be awarded one grant each of up to \$50,000 and provided  
4 technical assistance to help the municipality, nonprofit entity, or rural  
5 governmental entity to

6 (1) establish or designate a community or rural health service  
7 area health care review board;

8 (2) conduct a comprehensive analysis of the local health care  
9 delivery system, which may include health care delivery in areas not within  
10 the boundaries of a municipality;

11 (3) develop an areawide or municipal health services planning  
12 process;

13 (4) define a strategy for implementation of the health services  
14 plan developed by the municipality, nonprofit entity, or rural governmental  
15 entity;

16 (5) review coordination and cooperation of community, regional,  
17 state, and federal health care services and programs;

18 (6) evaluate effectiveness of public health, mental health,  
19 suicide prevention, drug and alcohol, and preventive health care programs;

20 (7) review cooperation, efficiency, and adequacy of public and  
21 private health care providers;

22 (8) review adequacy of health care facilities;

23 (9) make an accurate estimate, for the grantee's area, of the  
24 number of persons who are unable to receive necessary health care services,  
25 the number of patients who are generating unpaid medical bills, the number  
26 of residents who are uninsured or lack adequate health care insurance,  
27 which health care providers are providing uncompensated care, who is paying  
28 for the cost of uncompensated care, and the total cost of uncompensated  
29 care;

(10) participate and coordinate information gathered with appropriate federal and state committees or agencies; and

(11) recommend to the community or regional health care board, the Department of Health and Social Services, appropriate committees of the Alaska State Legislature, and appropriate federal agencies ways to coordinate and maximize the delivery and health care services.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Health Association of Alaska, the Alaska State Medical Association, the Alaska Native Health Board, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, and the University of Alaska, shall develop guidelines for implementing the grant program, including application procedures and the terms and conditions under which grants will be awarded. The department may not award a grant to a municipality or rural governmental entity that does not have a

(1) method of ensuring broad community participation in the development and implementation of the health service plan; and

(2) demonstrated commitment to the development and implementation of the health services plan through an agreement to provide cash and in-kind contributions to the planning process during the term of the grant totaling in value an amount that equals or exceeds 33 percent of total grant funds received during the term of the grant.

(c) The department shall, upon submission of appropriate applications, award grants under this section in state fiscal year 1991 and in state fiscal year 1992. One-half of the grants in each year shall be awarded to grantees who serve rural areas with special needs, as defined by the department.

(d) The department may contract for technical services necessary for implementing this grant program.

(e) The department shall make available to grantees a list of resources available to provide consultation services on health planning.

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1 (f) In this section

2 (1) "department" means the Department of Health and Social  
3 Services;

4 (2) "nonprofit entity serving a Native service area" means a  
5 nonprofit entity established by a Native regional corporation organized  
6 under 43 U.S.C. 1601 - 1628 to conduct health care programs under contracts  
7 with the federal government under P.L. 93-638 (Indian Self-determination  
8 and Education Assistance Act).

9 \* Sec. 3. This Act is repealed July 1, 1992.

10 \* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect July 1, 1990.