

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1990

Source

HCS SCR 46 (HESS)

Legislative
Resolve No.

121



Relating to the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature resolved to determine ways to contain or reduce the increasing cost of group health insurance to the state and its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS the Health Care Cost Containment Task Force established for this purpose in 1989 by Legislative Resolve No. 8 has made substantial progress in achieving savings and health care cost reductions; and

WHEREAS these efforts have resulted in

(1) \$4,000,000 of refunds to the state for fiscal year 1989;

(2) implementation of cost containment measures in the state's health plans that will reduce cost increases by \$4,500,000 in fiscal year 1990 and \$7,000,000 in the years ahead;

(3) reduction in the amount of the health insurance premium for the state's active employees from \$431.72 to \$385.00 per month per employee that is guaranteed until February 1, 1991; and

(4) a \$9 reduction in the amount of the health insurance premium for the state's retirees, to \$244 per retiree, that is also guaranteed until February 1, 1991, and resulting in a saving to the state's pension funds of \$1,200,000; and

WHEREAS the task force is investigating other measures that have potential for long-term control of medical and health care

cost inflation, principally through insurance pooling, self-insurance options, health care purchasing groups, and provider payment schedules; and

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

WHEREAS there is evidence that the unpaid portion of the cost of health care for state residents who are uninsured is included in the cost of health insurance for employees in both the private sector and government; and

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

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

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

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

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