

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 7(HSS)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY THE SENATE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 3/4/19**

**Referred: Finance**

**Sponsor(s): SENATOR MICCICHE**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act requiring the Department of Health and Social Services to apply for a waiver to**  
2 **establish work requirements for certain adults who are eligible for the state medical**  
3 **assistance program; and providing for an effective date."**

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

5 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
6 to read:

7 SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Medicaid Work Opportunities Act.

8 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 47.07.036 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 (h) The department shall apply for a section 1115 waiver under 42 U.S.C.  
10 1315 to establish a work requirement for adults who are eligible for medical assistance  
11 under AS 47.07.020 and who do not meet the criteria for an exemption described in  
12 (3) of this subsection. The application for the waiver must include a plan

13 (1) to require a recipient subject to the work requirement to  
14 demonstrate, as a condition of eligibility for medical assistance, that the recipient is

1 participating in work activities for a minimum of 80 hours each month by submitting  
 2 proof of employment or, if the recipient is not employed, proof that the recipient is  
 3 actively seeking employment, attending an educational, postsecondary, vocational, or  
 4 training program intended to lead to employment, volunteering, engaging in  
 5 subsistence activities, or caregiving;

6 (2) to allow a recipient to meet the work requirement described in this  
 7 subsection by demonstrating that the recipient participates in the Alaska temporary  
 8 assistance program and is in compliance with the work activities requirement  
 9 described in AS 47.27.035;

10 (3) to exempt a recipient from the work requirement described in this  
 11 subsection only if the recipient is

12 (A) under 19 years of age or 60 years of age or older;

13 (B) the parent or caretaker of a dependent child under six years  
 14 of age and the parent or caretaker is providing home care for the child;

15 (C) the parent or caretaker of a child experiencing a disability  
 16 and the parent or caretaker is providing home care for the child;

17 (D) the caretaker of a relative who is experiencing a disability  
 18 and requires 24-hour care;

19 (E) the parent or caretaker of a child under six years of age and  
 20 the parent or caretaker demonstrates that appropriate child care is not available;

21 (F) unable to work for medical reasons, as determined by a  
 22 licensed medical professional;

23 (G) pregnant;

24 (H) currently receiving unemployment insurance benefits; or

25 (I) participating in a tribal work program;

26 (4) to exempt temporarily a recipient from the work requirement  
 27 described in this subsection only if the recipient is

28 (A) experiencing a family hardship outside of the control of the  
 29 parent or caretaker, such as a death in the family or an immediate crisis, for the  
 30 duration of the hardship; or

31 (B) a victim of domestic violence;

1                   (5) to ensure that the work requirement does not prevent a recipient  
2 with a substance abuse disorder from obtaining appropriate treatment for the substance  
3 abuse disorder;

4                   (6) to notify all medical assistance recipients of the work requirement  
5 as soon as practicable if the waiver is approved and, not less than 90 days after  
6 providing notice of the work requirement, terminate medical assistance coverage for  
7 recipients who become ineligible as a result of noncompliance with the work  
8 requirement; notice of the work requirement must include contact information for the  
9 Department of Labor and Workforce Development and a list of employment-related  
10 training programs in or operated by the Department of Labor and Workforce  
11 Development;

12                   (7) to allow medical assistance coverage for up to 12 months after the  
13 department determines a recipient is no longer eligible because of an earnings increase  
14 if the recipient meets the work requirement described in this subsection and the  
15 earnings increase makes the recipient ineligible for medical assistance.

16 \* **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).