



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

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March 12, 2020

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: HB 29: Insurance Coverage for
Telehealth (SCS HB 29(HSS) am S)
Our file: 2020200257

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

At the request of your legislative director, we have reviewed HB 29, relating to insurance coverage for benefits provided through telehealth.

The bill amends AS 21.42.422, by removing the mental health coverage limitation on required insurance coverage for health benefits provided through telehealth. By removing this limitation, a health insurer that offers, issues for delivery, or renews in the state a health insurance plan will be required to provide coverage for telehealth benefits.

The bill also adds a new subsection to AS 21.42.422 that defines "health care insurer" and "telehealth" as used in the section. These terms are currently undefined in AS 21.42.422. Adding the definitions clarifies the application of the statute.

The bill provides for an immediate effective date and applies to policies offered, issued, delivered, or renewed on or after the effective date of the bill.

Hon. Mike Dunleavy Governor
Our file: 2020200257; Insurance Coverage Telehealth

April 24, 2020
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The bill presents no legal issues or other concerns.

Sincerely,

KEVIN G. CLARKSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By:

Susan R. Pollard
Chief Assistant Attorney General
Legislation & Regulations Section

KC/SRP/rjc