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## **ORDER R 02-02**

## MINIMUM BENEFIT LIMITS FOR COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

AS 21.42.365 requires health care insurers that offer, issue for delivery, deliver, or renew a health care insurance plan in this state to provide coverage for treatment of alcohol or drug abuse, subject to minimum benefit amounts specified in AS 21.42.365(a).

Under AS 21.42.365(b), the director is required to adjust the minimum benefit amounts specified in AS 21.42.365(a) to correspond to changes in the medical care component of the consumer price index for all urban consumers in the Anchorage Metropolitan Area compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Over the three-year period of 1999 though 2001, the medical care component has increased by 12 percent and, therefore, the minimum benefit amounts warrant an increase.

## It Is Hereby Ordered:

Effective January 1, 2002, the minimum benefit under AS 21.42.365 for coverage for treatment of alcohol or drug abuse is \$12,715 over two consecutive benefit years and \$25,425 lifetime benefits. These minimum benefits apply to a policy with a benefit year beginning during the calendar years 2002, 2003, and 2004.

DATED: January 25, 2002.

Robert A. Lohr Director