

<p align="center">State of Alaska Michael Dunleavy Governor</p>	<p align="center">Alaska Workers' Compensation Division PO Box 115512 Juneau, Alaska 99811-5512</p>		
<p>Department of Labor and Workforce Development</p>	<p align="center">BULLETIN</p>	<p>Number 20-05</p>	<p>Date April 10, 2020</p>
<p>Dr. Tamika L. Ledbetter Commissioner</p>	<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>REFERENCE</p>	<p>COVID 19 Virus Guidance –Presumption of Compensability for Emergency Response and Health Care Employees SB241, Sections 15 and 39</p>	

On April 9, 2020, Governor Dunleavy signed SB241 into law. To view the bill, go to:
<http://www.akleg.gov/PDF/31/Bills/SB0241Z.PDF>

SB241 established a presumption of compensability under the Workers' Compensation Act for emergency response and health care employees who contract COVID-19 during the public health disaster declared by Governor Dunleavy on March 11, 2020, if the employee:

- (1) is employed as a firefighter, emergency medical technician, paramedic, peace officer, or health care provider;
- (2) is exposed to COVID-19 in the course of employment; and
- (3) receives a
 - A. COVID-19 diagnosis by a physician;
 - B. presumptive positive COVID-19 test result; or
 - C. laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis.

The following terms are defined in the SB241:

- (1) “emergency medical technician” has the meaning given in AS 18.08.200;
- (2) “firefighter” means
 - a. A person employed by a state or municipal fire department or who is a member of a volunteer fire department registered with the state fire marshal; or
 - b. A person registered for purposes of workers’ compensation with the state fire marshal as a member of a volunteer fire department;
- (3) “health care provider” has the meaning given in AS 13.52.390;
- (4) “paramedic” has the meaning given in AS 12.55.185;
- (5) “peace officer” has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900.

The presumption is retroactive to March 11, 2020.

If you have questions regarding the information in this bulletin, please contact the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Workers’ Compensation Division at (907) 269-4980, or by email at workerscomp@alaska.gov.