## Alaska State Legislature

Session: (Jan. - May)

State Capitol, Suite 7

Fax: (907) 465-3756 Toll free: (800) 770-3822

Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-3822

Interim: (May - Dec.) 716 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 269-0144 Fax: (907) 269-0148



Senator Bettye Davis@legis.state.ak.us http://www.akdemocrats.org

## **Senator Bettye Davis**

October 9, 2007

Karleen Jackson, Commissioner Alaska Department of Health & Social Services PO Box 110601 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0601

## Dear Commissioner,

I am planning to hold a hearing in the coming legislative session dealing with the use of psychotropic drugs on children in this state. I know there are concerns being voiced by advocacy groups in the state on this subject. Therefore I am requesting any statistical information you may have in this area. Specifically I would like information on the number of children who are prescribed these drugs via state expenditures who are either in state custody or through Medicaid or Denali KidCare.

This information should include the number of children, a breakdown of their ages and the type and number of drugs prescribed in this category. It is my understanding that we have a contract with Comprehensive NeuroScience Inc., to track these issues. I also understand that they prepare a monthly report entitled, "Alaska Behavioral Pharmacy Reports for Children Under 18."

I would request a copy of this report from the initial period of publication up through the latest issue.

If you would like further clarification of this request, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bettye Davis