



**GENERAL
TEAMSTERS
LOCAL 959
STATE OF ALASKA**

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Rick Boyles, Secretary-Treasurer

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Phone (907) 565-8122 • Fax (907) 565-8199

March 20, 2012

Hand Delivered

Representative Bill Lynn
State Capitol Room 108
Juneau, AK, 99801

Re: House Bill 327, Privileged Communications

Dear Representative Lynn:

On behalf of our Teamster Local 959 Business Representatives and the members that we represent around the state, we wish to thank you for introducing this legislation in regards to the impact of privileged communications. House Bill 327 would allow free candid and confidential conversations between employees and their Business Representative. In addition, this bill allows the Business Representatives to fully investigate workplace disputes. House Bill 327 establishes privilege similar to the "attorney-client" privilege, between a Business Representative and member. This correlates to conversations that occur during the administration of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Additionally, previous legislatures have recognized other privileges for persons other than doctors, lawyers and spouse, such as:

- Evident Rule 503, protects communication between clients and lawyers' representatives;
- 08.63.200, protects communications between marital and family therapists and their patients;
- 08.95.900, protects communications between licensed social workers, their employees and clients;
- 08.86.200, protects communications made to "psychological associates";
- 08.80.315, protects records of pharmacists and communications between pharmacists and patients;
- 08.04.662, protects communications of accountants and their clients.

Considering the above examples and House Bill 327, we believe the merit of privilege is to ensure that members, clients, and patients can confide freely in their Representatives

Page 2:
House Bill 327
Representative Lynn

or provide support in order to help them reduce problems, resolve litigations, and/or get appropriate service.

For these reasons, we thank you for introducing this important bill.

Sincerely,

TEAMSTERS LOCAL 959

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rick Boyles".

Rick Boyles
Secretary-Treasurer