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11/19/25

Providence Cancer Center Community Advisory Council
3851 Piper Street U Tower
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The Providence Cancer Center Community Advisory Council supports efforts that will improve access to quality healthcare services, including genetic counseling services, in Alaska. We support the efforts of the genetic counselors at the Providence Cancer Center and others to secure licensure for genetic counselors in Alaska as means towards this end.

The field of medical genetics has experienced tremendous growth in recent years, and this growth has impacted virtually all areas of medicine. Consequently, the importance of providing quality genetic counseling services is even more important since consumers are increasingly making healthcare decisions based upon genetic risk factors and results of a variety of genetic tests.

Genetic counselors are master's degree trained health care professionals who provide consumers with information, education, counseling, advocacy and psychosocial support for medical conditions that are either entirely or partially determined by genetic factors. Licensure for genetic counselors is critical to ensure that providers of genetic counseling services have appropriate training and credentials so that individuals receive proper information and care. Currently, there is no legal specification in Alaska for who may use the title of Genetic Counselor. Licensure for genetic counselors is an important mechanism by which consumers of genetic counseling services can identify appropriately qualified providers.

Please consider championing legislation for genetic counselor licensure.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicky Phillips MSN, Sr. Director Oncology".

Vicky Phillips MSN, RN, NE-BC
Sr Director Oncology/Digestive Health

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Mego, MD".

Thomas Mego, MD
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Providence Cancer Community Advisory Council Chair