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March 23, 2009

The Honorable Bob Lynn, Chair
House State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 104
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 123 (Fairclough)--Support

Dear Chair Lynn:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House State Affairs Committee to support HB 123, authored by Representative Anna Fairclough and co-sponsored by you and your Committee colleague Representative Peggy Wilson as well as Representative Beth Kerttula.

Unfortunately, Alaska has a high rate of suicide. Many of these suicides include mid-life and older Alaskans. The Statewide Suicide Prevention Council needs to continue its work and address this issue for our citizens. The Council still has much to do and, in our opinion, should be allowed to continue for another four years.

AARP requests an "AYE" vote on HB 123.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
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CC: Vice-Chair Paul Seaton
Representative Carl Gatto
Representative Craig Johnson
Representative Peggy Wilson
Representative Anna Fairclough