



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL  
ON DISABILITIES &  
SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Sean Parnell, Governor**  
**State of Alaska**

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February 13, 2012

Senator Kevin Meyer  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: SB 127 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day

Dear Senator Meyer,

Thank you for sponsoring SB 127, which establishes September 9<sup>th</sup> each year as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day. The Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education strongly supports SB 127, which will bring awareness about the lives of those affected by alcohol spectrum disorders. The establishment of this Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Day highlights the completely preventable nature of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and emphasizes the importance of abstaining from alcohol for the duration of a nine-month pregnancy. This important bill will also increase our state's awareness regarding the many Alaskans who struggle with fetal alcohol disorders.

The Governor's Council strongly supports Senate Bill 127 to establish an awareness day specifically highlighting fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and hopes it helps to increase the support for individuals and families already struggling with FASD as well as prevent future Alaskans from experiencing FASD.

Respectfully,

Eric Gebhart  
Council Chair