

**GENERAL
TEAMSTERS
LOCAL 959
STATE OF ALASKA**

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Rick Boyles, Secretary-Treasurer

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March 20, 2012

Hand Delivered

Senator Egan
Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol Room 108
Juneau, AK, 99801

RE: Senate Bill 224, Privileged Communications

Dear Senator Egan:

On behalf of our Teamster Local 959 Business Representatives and the members that we represent around the state, we wish to thank the Committee for introducing this legislation in regards to the impact of privileged communications. Senate Bill 224 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. Senate Bill 224 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.

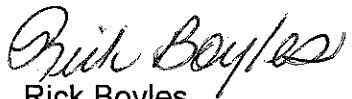
Considering the above examples and Senate Bill 224, we believe the merit of privilege is to ensure that members, clients, and patients can confide freely in their

Representatives 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 that reads "Rick Boyles".

Rick Boyles
Secretary-Treasurer