

Chris Guggenbickler

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2/13/14

The Honorable Bert Stedman
State Capitol Room 30
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Passage of Senate Bill 159, to allow air ambulance membership programs to continue.

Dear Senator Stedman,

My name is Chris Guggenbickler and I am a self employed commercial fisherman who resides in Wrangell Alaska. I am also a volunteer fireman and EMT. One of our duties as an EMT is to transport patients and Airlift Northwest crew to and from the hospital to the airport. Living in a small community such as Wrangell and other small communities in Alaska we do not have the facilities or personel available to deal with major life threatening medical situations. The best we can do is stabalize these patients and medivac them to a facility best suited to deal with their injuries. This happens all too often, from major trauma and cardiac emergencies to simpler procedure we just don't have the resources to deal with in a small community.

Our fire and EMS personel have been covered through this membership program. Prior to that my family was enrolled in the Airlift membership program. As I can afford \$100 per year membership, a lifesaving flight could cripple my family financially.

Thank you for your time in sponsoring and pursuing passage of SB 159

Sincerely,
Chris Guggenbickler