

**From:** Hurlburt, Ward B (HSS) []  
**Sent:** Friday, March 07, 2014 12:49 PM  
**To:** Rep. Wes Keller  
**Subject:** HB 203

Wes – you asked me about HB 203 the other evening at the Juneau airport when we were enjoying waiting for the plane to come in from Sitka. Perhaps I didn't focus or understand well enough, but at the time I wasn't clear in my mind about why this bill would be of benefit related to the costs of healthcare in Alaska and I responded to you in that way.

In pulling up the bill and reading it I do understand the language of the bill and the purpose and believe that it is clearly consistent with the recommendations we have made from the Health Care Commission to the Governor and the Legislature related to one of the somewhat "abnormal" aspects of our healthcare system in Alaska.

I imagine there will not be a Governor's position on this bill, but with approval I will plan to call in for next Friday's hearing to testify regarding the rationale behind this bill, the need for it, that it is fully consistent with the recommendations of the Health Care Commission, and can be a factor in helping us move to a more sustainable health care system in our state in a market based manner.

Because I gave you a much less clear response in the airport I wanted to let you know that I understand better now and that I may be calling in to testify regarding this bill next Friday if it is on the agenda.

Thank you for doing and sponsoring this, Wes.

Ward