

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

FEB 19 2014

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

Dear Senator Stedman,

My name is Theresa Allen and I am an EMT-2 who resides in Wrangell Alaska.

Airlift Northwest is a preeminent provider of air medical transport services in the Pacific Northwest dedicated to providing safe, efficient air medical transport to critically ill and injured infants, children and adults. All aircraft fly with teams of two nurses certified in advanced cardiac life support, advanced trauma life support, pediatric advanced life support, trauma nursing care, neonatal resuscitation, critical care nursing, emergency nursing and flight nursing. This level of expertise is unique in the air medical industry and comparable to that found in a hospital intensive care unit. Airlift Northwest meets and exceeds all standards of care for air medical transport services and is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Services. Airlift Northwest is committed to the region and provides a substantial amount of financial assistance to a Mission of Caring fund for those in need.

Currently there are 4,066 members throughout SE Alaska and 23,901 in Washington.

AirCare is a membership program that provides patients with high-quality air medical transport services at an affordable cost. Lifesaving air medical transport can be expensive and insurances may not cover all costs. As an AirCare member, only your insurance company receives a bill. Airlift Northwest works directly with your insurance company for claims processing. The AirCare membership program is secondary to all payers. The purpose of the AirCare membership is to cover the deductible and coinsurance amounts that may not be covered by the primary payer.

Please vote yes on SB 159

Thank you for your time in sponsoring and pursuing passage of **SB 159** this session.

Sincerely,

Theresa Allen



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