From: Roland Gower, M.D.

To: Senate Finance Committee

Subject: Support Alaska WWAMI medical education program

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:30:09 PM

Dear Committee Finance,

Dear Distinguished Members of the Senate Finance Committee and the AK State Legislature,

My name is Roland Gower. I have practiced medicine and surgery in the Alaska since 1975. I have served and paid my dues in many non paying capacities for my community and the State of Alaska. I speak as a past President of both the Ak State Med Association and the Anchorage Medical society, past Chief of Staff at ARH, past Chief of Surgery at both Providence and Regional Hospitals, Past Commissioner of State of AK Medicaid rate Commission, founding President of the AK Run for Women, etc., etc.,

Failing to fund the WAMI program will be a serious mistake on your part for the future wellbeing of Alaskans. I sympathize with your task of deciding what to fund and what not to fund but feel that axing this program is going to seriously worsen the problem of providing primary health care to a segment of Alaskans that is already seriously struggling with this problem. If you feel you have no other choise, then at least only cut the program back to 2006 level when the state only funded 10 positions.

I thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Roland Gower M.D.

Please ensure funding for the WWAMI program continues.

Sincerely,

Roland Gower M.D. 12600 Shelburne Rd Anchorage, AK 99516