



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development

STATE MEDICAL BOARD

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February 24, 2017

The Honorable Shelley Hughes  
State Senate  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Senator Hughes:

The Alaska State Medical Board has reviewed Senate Bill (SB) 32, which proposes to allow pharmacists to dispense interchangeable biological products as an equivalent to a written prescription, and to report the substitution to the prescribing practitioner within 3 days of dispensing. The Board also reviewed an FDA handout regarding approved biosimilar medications. It was noted that a prescribing practitioner may always write "no substitutions" on a prescription.

The Board determined to take a neutral position on the bill, so long as the reporting requirement remains, and recommend that the reporting occur at the time of dispensing instead of three days after dispensing.

Sincerely,

Grant Roderer, M.D.  
Board President  
Alaska State Medical Board

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