# Why LEGISLATION IS NEEDED IN Alaska

* Current Alaska state law   
  does not provide a clear pathway for pharmacists to substitute biological drug products known as biosimilars. These biological products   
  differ from traditional generics   
  as biosimilars are not   
  identical versions of their originator biologics.
* SB 32 updates   
  current laws to allow   
  biological substitution.
* SB 32 allows a pharmacist to substitute an FDA-approved   
  interchangeable biosimilar   
  for a prescribed originator biologic without first seeking approval from the physician.
* SB 32 requires that within a certain time after dispensing,

the pharmacist must communicate to the physician the specific biologic product dispensed.

* Numerous providers and   
  patient groups have   
  advocated for this kind of transparent communication about the particular biologic   
  that was dispensed.
* SB 32 will increase   
  access to lower cost drugs   
  for patients.
* SB 32 relies on electronic communication between the pharmacist and prescriber, which is intended to create a clear and accurate medical record of which product was ultimately dispensed to the patient.