

March 20, 2019

Senator David Wilson Chair, Senate HSS Standing Committee Alaska State Legislature

Re: Senate Bill 93

Dear Senator Wilson,

On behalf of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), I write in support of Senate Bill (SB) 93 – An Act relating to a workforce enhancement program for health care professionals employed in the state; and providing for an effective date.

ANTHC is a statewide tribal health organization that serves all 229 tribes and more than 173,000 Alaska Native and American Indian (AN/AI) individuals in Alaska. ANTHC and Southcentral Foundation co-manage the Alaska Native Medical Center, the tertiary care hospital for all AN/AIs in Alaska. ANTHC also provides a wide range of statewide public health, community health, environmental health and other programs and services for Alaska Native people and their communities.

Alaska's SHARP program provides recruitment and retention services for Alaska's health care workforce, and continues to be of great value to ANTHC. As outlined in the proposed legislation, ANTHC supports its intent to expand health professional types and sites eligible for the program.

ANTHC currently employs five health professionals that have benefited from the SHARP program and looks forward to the continued partnership this legislation would enable. Thank you for the opportunity to provide support and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or if additional information can be provided.

Sincerely,

Gerald Moses

Vice President, Intergovernmental Affairs

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Cc: Rachel Gearhart, SHARP co-chair Eric Boyer, SHARP co-chair