

4/8/2019

State Capitol Room 421 Juneau AK, 99801

Representative Spohnholz,

I am writing this letter in support of House Bill No. 89. Set Free Alaska sees firsthand the devastating impact of addiction to various substances including opioids. This epidemic impacts individuals, families, businesses, and our communities as a whole.

Many of the clients we serve who are addicted to heroin were introduced to opioids through a legal prescription. Often, these individuals begin as a productive member of society and present in our clinic after losing almost everything.

HB 89 would ensure that regulations are adopted requiring licensees to advise patients of the risks associated with opioid prescriptions. This information will empower patients to make wise decisions regarding their prescription opioid use. In addition, this bill could prevent unintentional addiction that results from people not being informed and/or prepared for the power of the substance they are prescribed.

Sincerely,

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Philip Licht Executive Director Set Free Alaska