



Representative Ivy Spohnholz

House Health & Social Services Committee Co-Chair

*Serving House District 16: College Gate, Russian Jack, Nunaka Valley, & Reflection Lake
Committee Member: Resources, Energy, & Legislative Budget & Audit*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2019

TO: Representative Ivy Spohnholz, Co-Chair of House Health & Social Services

RE: Hearing Request: House Bill 89, Opioid Addiction Risk Disclosure

I respectfully request that House Bill 89 "Opioid Addiction Risk Disclosure" be scheduled for the House Health & Social Services Committee at its earliest convenience.

HB 89 requires medical providers and pharmacists to inform patients of the inherent risks of opioids before prescribing these drugs. This patient information bill aims to increase communication around the issue of opioid addiction in order to address the public health crisis that Alaska is currently facing. The goal of this bill is to decrease the likelihood of a person becoming addicted to opioids or heroin. It is easier to prevent addiction than to cure it. Prevention efforts will preserve families, save money spent on law enforcement, addiction treatment, and court systems. HB 89 is a low-cost tool to prevent expensive addiction before it starts.

Attached you will find:

1. HB 89 version A
2. HB 89 Sectional Analysis
3. HB 89 Sponsor Statement

Please contact Miranda Dordan at 465-2794 if you need further information.

Session (January-April):
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