



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

**Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development**

**DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**
Anchorage Office

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February 14, 2019

Senator Cathy Giessel
Alaska State Capitol, Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel;

The Alaska Board of Nursing is entirely in support of SB36 "An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Nursing; and providing for an effective date."

The Alaska Board of Nursing is needed to protect the health and safety of Alaskans. The Alaskan population has special needs resulting from such diverse and isolated areas. The Alaska Board of Nursing regulates Alaska nursing education, licensing and scope of practice. With Alaska Board of Nursing guidance and oversight, Alaska nurses ensure safe effective health care services while meeting the unique Alaska population needs. The Alaska Board of Nursing is essential to maintain and further expand the high degree of health care services provided by Alaska's nurses.

Thank you for your time and attention to the Alaska Board of Nursing position in support of SB36.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Lefleur RN", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Lefleur, MSN Ed, RN
Acting Chair
Alaska Board of Nursing

Alaska Nursing Action Coalition
PO Box 241933
Anchorage, AK 99524

March 26, 2019

Dear Senator Giessel:

Thank you for sponsoring Senate Bill 36 *Extending the Termination Date of the Board of Nursing* which proposes to extend the Alaska Board of Nursing to June 30, 2025.

The Alaska Nursing Action Coalition (ANAC) supports SB 36. We appreciate the review of the Alaska State Board of Nursing by the Division of Legislative Audit and concur with the auditor's conclusion that the board serves the public interest, and that it should be extended.

Alaska's State Board of Nursing is critical to the regulatory infrastructure of our State's Certified Nurse Aides (CAN), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN), and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). Membership on the Board of Nursing should represent a cross section of those who are regulated as well as members of the public and professional nurse educators. Doing so ensures that regulations reflect current national standards of nurse practice, and that said regulations are developed based on the most current science and best practice of the profession and of healthcare.

Alaska's Board has worked in a transparent fashion making their meeting agendas easily accessible to the public, the public they help protect. This diligence helps ensure the public's confidence in the nursing profession and the delivery of healthcare in our State.

We urge passage of SB36 and would welcome any questions you might have. Thank you Senator Giessel for your leadership on nursing and healthcare issues in our great state of Alaska.

Respectfully,

Cynthia A. Brooker PhD, CNE, RN

(Leader Alaska Nursing Action Coalition)



P.O. Box 244471
Anchorage, AK 99524-4471

Senator Cathy Giessel
Alaska State Capital
Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801

February 27, 2017

Senator Giessel,

We are writing on behalf of the Alaska Nurses Foundation in strong support of SB 36 "An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Nursing; and providing for an effective date" of June 30, 2025. We thank Senator Giessel for her leadership on nursing issues.

The State's Board of Nursing provides essential support and regulatory infrastructure to our State's Certified Nurse Aides (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN) and Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). The Board holds an essential role in promoting and protecting the health of Alaskans by assuring safe and effective nursing practice. In fulfilling their mission, the Board works in a transparent fashion making their meetings agenda's easily accessible to public and offering time for public testimony at each meeting. Further, a toll free number is provided that allows any member of the public to listen to the public portion of the meetings. All of this enhances the Board's development of regulations through which we are able to ensure that the nursing profession is abiding by the latest standards shaped by best practices and keeping pace with advancements in the field.

Similarly, it is essential that complaints about the care provided by a nurse be thoroughly investigated by Board of Nursing staff who are deeply knowledgeable about the practice of nursing and the State's regulations. By doing so we ensure the public's confidence in the nursing profession and delivery of healthcare in our State.

The Alaska Nurses Association appreciates your support of Alaska's nurses and the broader healthcare sector.

Sincerely,

Margaret S Wright, RN, MSN, PHCNS-BC, DrPH
President, Alaska Nurses Foundation

Tina D. DeLapp, EdD, RN, FAAN
13101 Elmore Road, Anchorage, AK 99516-2910
907-345-0802 tdelapp@ak.net

23 March 2019

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 111
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

I am writing to convey my strong support for SB 36, which would extend the Board of Nursing through 2025. The Board of Nursing is crucial to adequately regulate the practice of professional nursing in Alaska to protect the health of Alaskans across the State.

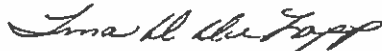
The Board of Nursing protects the health of Alaskans in a number of ways:

- It assures that licensed nurses are competent to provide safe and effective nursing care to the public;
- It develops reasonable and uniform standards for nursing practice, publishing opinions and giving advice to nurses and health care institutions regarding those standards; and
- It establishes procedures that facilitate the preparation of an adequate supply of nurses to meet the public's need for nursing care and that promotes the public's access to high quality nursing and health care.

Nurses practice in a wide variety of settings, each of which has unique characteristics and clientele. The health of Alaskans depends on having an effective Board of Nursing that ensure that safe and effective nursing service providers that understand the full range of nursing practice, including nursing education.

It is for these reasons that I urge passage of SB 36.

Sincerely,



Tina D. DeLapp, EdD, RN, FAAN
Emerita Professor of Nursing
Former member, Alaska Board of Nursing



APRN ALLIANCE

March 4, 2019

Senator Cathy Giessel

Alaska State Capitol, Rm 111

Juneau, Alaska 99811

Senator Giessel

Thank you for introducing SB 36 "Extending the Termination Date of the Board of Nursing."

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Alliance - Alaska (APRN Alliance-Alaska) supports SB 36. We appreciate the review of the board by the Division of Legislative Audit and concur with the auditor's conclusion that the board serves the public interest, and that it should be extended.

Membership on the Board of Nursing represents a cross section of those who are regulated as well as members of the public and professional nurse educators. This ensures that regulations reflect the current national standards of practice and are developed based on current science and evidence-based best practice.

The Board of Nursing also utilizes expertise and their knowledge of nursing practice and regulations when investigating nurses or nurse aides regarding complaints about the care that was provided. Finally, the Board of Nursing assures that APRN's, RNs, LPNs, and Nurse Aides are educated and prepared by nationally recognized training programs to meet the unique and diverse needs of Alaskans.

We urge passage of SB36. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

SWB

Stephanie Wrightsman-Birch APRN, MPH, MSN, FNP-C

President, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Alliance – Alaska

February 28, 2019

Senator Cathy Giessel
Alaska State Capitol
Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

RE: SB 36

I am writing to support SB 36 "An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Nursing; and providing for an effective date" of June 30, 2025. I want to thank you for introducing this bill to extend the board's termination date an additional six years.

The State's nursing board is integral in management, support, and regulation of our state's Certified Nurse Aides (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). The transparency and accessibility of the board allows the easy access to the public and allows for testimony when needed. This is integral in development of regulations that shape how we, as nurses, practice.

The board's mission statement is "to actively promote and protect the health of the citizens of Alaska through the safe and effective practice of nursing as defined by law." In my 40 years of nursing, I have always had great respect for the statutes and regulations set forth by the state licensing board that I am working in. I also, commend those who give of their time to ensure the integrity and safety of nursing in Alaska by serving in a board seat.

Regards,



Donna Phillips, BSN, RN
PO Box 1178
Girdwood, AK 99587
donnaphill1178@gmail.com

3-31-19

Senator Cathy Giessel,

I am writing to offer support for Senate Bill 36 to extend the Board of Nursing for six years. I am a nurse working in Alaska and this is an important issue. The Board of Nursing is needed to keep Alaskans safe and protect their health. The regulations regarding the nursing role is crucial at all levels, but especially with the APRN role. I am proud of the scope of practice of APRNs have earned in our state and would hate to jeopardize their practice.

Please continue to press for the extension of the Board of Nursing and thank you for your support for Alaska nurses!

Martha Carver
University of Alaska Anchorage
mlcarver@alaska.edu
223-7656

Amber Michael

15201 A Snowflake Dr., Anchorage, AK 99516 ☎ (907) 351-1315
ambermichaelofak@gmail.com ☎ RN License #: 38973

February 28, 2019

I am writing to support SB 36 “An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Nursing; and providing for an effective date” of June 30, 2025. I want to thank Senator Giessel for all of her hard work and leadership in support of nursing issues.

The State’s nursing board is integral in management, support, and regulation of our state’s Certified Nurse Aides (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). The transparency and accessibility of the board allows the easy access to the public and allows for testimony when needed. This is integral in development of regulations that shape how we, as nurses, practice. This drives community safety and health and should not be underestimated.

The board has also introduced and passed numerous bills in the past that have helped to protect nurses and our patients. Bills that would most likely never seen the light of day otherwise.

I would greatly appreciate your support of the Alaska Board of Nursing and nurses state wide with support for this bill.

Sincerely,

Amber L Michael

Amber Michael, RN



Alaska Nurses Association
3701 E. Tudor Road, Suite 208
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 274-0827
www.aknurse.org

February 27, 2017

We are writing on behalf of the Alaska Nurses Association in strong support of SB 36 "An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Nursing; and providing for an effective date" of June 30, 2025. We thank Senator Giessel for her leadership on nursing issues.

The State's Board of Nursing provides essential support and regulatory infrastructure to our State's Certified Nurse Aides (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN) and Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). The Board works in a transparent fashion making their meetings agenda's easily accessible to public and offering time for public testimony at each meeting. Further, a toll free number is provided that allows any member of the public to listen to the public portion of the meetings. All of this enhances the Board's development of regulations through which we are able to ensure that the nursing profession is abiding by the latest standards shaped by best practices and keeping pace with advancements in the field.

Similarly, it is essential that complaints about the care provided by a nurse be thoroughly investigated by Board of Nursing staff who are deeply knowledgeable about the practice of nursing and the State's regulations. By doing so we ensure the public's confidence in the nursing profession and delivery of healthcare in our State.

The Alaska Nurses Association appreciates your support of Alaska's nurses and the broader healthcare sector.

Sincerely,

Karen Morton, RN
Legislative Chair
Alaska Nurses Association

Jane Erickson, RN, CCRN
President, Board of Directors
Alaska Nurses Association

Donna Phillips, BSN, RN
Chair, Labor Council
Alaska Nurses Association

Beth Gartner Farnstrom, RN
18751 Villages Scenic Pkwy.
Anchorage, AK 99516
b_gartner@yahoo.com
907-349-6074

February 26, 2019

Senator Cathy Giessel
Alaska State Capitol
Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

RE: SB 36

I am an Alaska Registered Nurse who is in support of SB 36 "An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Nursing; and providing for an effective date."

The Alaska State Board of Nursing is performing their Statutory and Regulatory charges. Their actions are keeping the public safe by regulating the practices and education of Certified Nurse Aides (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN) and Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRN). The Board is now more transparent than ever to the public. The Board has made available on the Alaska State Board of Nursing website an electronic board book so the public can prepare for the board meetings. The Board continues to offer time for public testimony at each meeting. The Board has a toll free number that the public can listen to the public portion of the meetings.

Since the 2010 legislative audit, the Board has completed several bills being passed to further protect and advance health care delivery to Alaskans. The Board was able to update the regulations for the independent practice of Advance Practical Registered Nurses (APRN). Alaska is leading the national trend of permitting APRNs to independently deliver high quality care to Alaskans.

The 2018 legislative audit identified a 42% increase in licensees since the 2010 audit. This was done without any permanent increase in office personnel. The auditor did a random sample of 51 licensees and all were found to have been issued in compliance with statutes and regulations.

I support extending the Alaska State Board of Nursing through SB 36.

Sincerely,

Beth Farnstrom, RN