



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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SWB'.

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

President, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Alliance – Alaska