



May 9, 2021

Dear Alaska Representative,

Please support SB47. The specialists listed in this bill typically spend more time in intensive therapies with patients than physicians do, and they know their patients' needs and abilities.

For our adult populations that speech pathologists, occupational therapists and physical therapists serve:

This bill will make it easier for people to be self-sufficient, get people back to work faster, reduce wait times for a parking placard, reduce reinjury, and reduce medical costs.

For those of us who serve pediatrics:

This bill will allow a caregiver of a disabled child to park a safe distance from the entrance to the child's services that may be attended 1-3x/week in icy parking lots in our Alaskan winters where there may also be other children to attend to at the same time.

Disability can affect anybody, and we all need access to stay as independent as possible and the means to get access efficiently.

Vote yes on SB 47.

Thank you sincerely for your time and your dedication to Alaskans!

Andrea Toth, MA, CCC-SLP
Alaska Speech and Hearing Association President
Owner of It's More Than Speech, LLC in Eagle River, AK
Speech and Language Pathologist