

From: Felisa Wilson <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:54 AM

To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Cronk <Rep.Mike.Cronk@akleg.gov>; Rep. Harriet Drummond <Rep.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bryce Edgmon <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Zack Fields <Rep.Zack.Fields@akleg.gov>; Rep. Neal Foster <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ronald Gillham <Rep.Ronald.Gillham@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. DeLena Johnson <Rep.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. James Kaufman <Rep.James.Kaufman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Christopher Kurka <Rep.Christopher.Kurka@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kevin McCabe <Rep.Kevin.McCabe@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ken McCarty <Rep.Ken.McCarty@akleg.gov>; Rep. Thomas McKay <Rep.Thomas.McKay@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Nelson <Rep.David.Nelson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ben Carpenter <Rep.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for SB47

Dear Alaska Representative,

My name is Felisa Wilson, I am a Family Practice physician and recently retired Air Force officer. I currently live on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and have lived in Alaska since 2015. I am writing in support of SB47 and its amendments to expand the specialties of ancillary providers who can authorize disability plates and placards for Alaskan disabled citizens who qualify. Speech Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Advanced Nurse Practitioners all have professional clinical degrees and scopes of practice that sufficiently qualify them to assess the nuances of a person's disabilities and attest to such disabilities for the purposes of authorizing state issued disability placards and license plates.

Current methods of clinical practice ascribes to the multidisciplinary model of patient care, in which several medical disciplines collaborate on various aspects of medical needs unique to each patient in order to provide the most clinically appropriate medical treatment plan from a multidisciplinary perspective. Each clinical provider has intimate knowledge of the patient and lends this knowledge in the development of a clinical treatment plan.

That being said, the addition of SLPs, PTs, OTs, and ANPs to the list of qualified providers who can authorize and sign disability placards/plates applications for patients is medically appropriate and beneficial to patients by eliminating the necessity of having to make additional appointments with primary care providers or other ancillary care providers just to complete the disability application. The proposed amendments in SB47 effectively decrease cost and inconvenience to disabled patients.

I support this bill and request that you support and approve SB47 in the Alaska House of Representatives.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. Please feel free to contact me at 410-570-5519 if you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Dr. Felisa Wilson, MD, MPA