

SB 65 Liability of Consulting Health Care Sponsor Statement

Many Alaska communities do not have specialist medical professionals. Doctors in rural communities rely on the ability to call specialists in urban hubs to seek expertise on specialized medical fields and advice on evaluating urgent situations. These informal, unpaid consults give Alaskans the benefit of specialist knowledge and some costs by preventing unnecessary medical transports to hub communities. This bill will relieve the unpaid consultant's from medical malpractice liability. It also ensures the primary doctor cannot use the consultant to decrease their own liability so the patient will get full recovery.