

From: Lisa Wells [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 6:26:50 PM
To: Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>
Cc: Katie McCall <Katie.McCall@akleg.gov>; Melodie Wilterdink <Melodie.Wilterdink@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB111

Dear Senator Costello,

My name is Lisa Wells, and I live in the Jewel Lake area of Anchorage. I am a dental hygienist writing in support of HB111. I encourage you to schedule the bill for a hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee.

HB111 would allow hygienists to work independently in under-served areas. Several years ago I worked under a collaborative agreement to provide fluoride treatments to students in a Title I school in Anchorage, but ultimately the project ended after its second year because it was not sustainable. HB111 would correct many of the issues I encountered with the collaborative agreement system, and allow hygienists to really make an impact in those communities that lack access to care.

I am the current vice-president of the Alaska Dental Hygienists' Association and our organization has worked closely with the Board of Dental Examiners and the Alaska Dental Society to create a proposal all could agree on, as evidenced by the letters of support in the bill packet. Identical legislation, HB127 from the 31st Legislature, was heard and passed out of the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee during the 2020 legislative session, just before the Covid-19 pandemic caused the Legislature to end the session early that year.

Thank you for serving the West Anchorage district over the past decade. I am hopeful that HB111 will pass the legislature this year.

Lisa Wells, RDH
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