From: Sen. Click Bishop

To: <u>Senate Finance Committee</u>

Subject: FW: Support SB26 - Repeal Certificate of Need

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:46:40 AM

From: Peggy Kircher <mo3binak@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 8:38 PM

To: Sen. Bert Stedman <Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bill Wielechowski <Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. David Wilson <Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Donny Olson <Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof

<Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support SB26 - Repeal Certificate of Need

Dear Senators,

I respectfully ask that you do what is needed to bring SB26 in front of the Finance Committee for a second hearing as soon as possible this session. It is imperative that SB26 be moved to the floor for a vote to be repealed this session.

You should be aware that the Certificate of Need (CON) is one of the main reasons Alaskans cannot afford the cost of health care in their hometown, which is bad news any way you look at it.

CON requires legislative approval before a healthcare facility can expand, buy equipment or even open a new health care facility. This basically creates a monopoly for existing healthcare facilities and hospitals, by allowing them to charge whatever price they want, and therefore, drive up costs to your constituents who can least afford it.

CON is an outdated answer to problems that no longer exist and many states have already repealed it for that reason. Please join them.

SB26 would end Certificate of Need and allow the health care industry in Alaska to operate in a free market where competition between providers will ultimately drive down costs for your constituents.

Again, I respectfully request your support of SB26 to repeal the Certificate of Need. It is imperative that SB26 be moved to the floor for a vote to be repealed this session.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Peggy Kircher District 10