



**ALASKA
MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**
**ADVISORY BOARD ON
ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE**

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Kermit E. Wilson, Executive Director

February 12, 2026

Representative Genevieve Mina
State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: HB 26 – Statewide Public and Community Transit Plan

Dear Representative Mina,

The Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (ABADA) and the Alaska Mental Health Board (AMHB) are statutorily charged with advising, planning, educating, and coordinating behavioral health services and programs funded by the State of Alaska. The Boards are also tasked with evaluating federal and state laws concerning mental health, alcohol, and other drug and substance misuse prevention and treatment services (A.S. 47.30.661, A.S. 44.29.100).

HB 26 Addresses statewide public transit planning, broadening the study of transportation options to include rural and remote areas, and address community transportation concerns, including accommodations for people with mental illness and those returning from incarceration.

AMHB-ABADA supports the passage of HB 26, believing that accommodations for Alaskans with disabilities who struggle with transportation may improve the likelihood of stability, employment, and overall quality of life.

Thank you for introducing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Bobby Dorton, Chair
Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

Tonie Protzman, LPC, Chair
Alaska Mental Health Board

Kermit E. Wilson, Executive Director