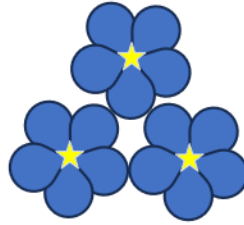


Alaska Interior Delegation

In Juneau

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Fairbanks, AK 99701
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Date: February 27, 2026
To: Alaska State Legislature
From: Interior Delegation
Re: Letter of Support for SB 193 and HB 147

Dear Committee Members,

Members of the Interior Delegation have supported the work of the Alaska Association of Naturopathic Doctors (AKAND) for decades as they have advocated for a reasonable adjustment to their legal scope of practice—one that would allow them to meet primary care needs in Alaska consistent with the full extent of their professional training. As a result of this long-standing support, Senate Bill 193 and House Bill 147, Practice of Naturopathy, are now under consideration by the Legislature.

SB 193 and HB 147 were developed with careful attention to concerns raised in prior legislative discussions. In response, the bills establish an optional prescriptive endorsement for naturopathic doctors in Alaska, available only after passing a state-approved pharmacology examination. Initially, this endorsement would require prescribing under a collaborative agreement with a licensed Alaska physician for a one-year period. Upon successful completion of that collaborative period, a naturopathic doctor could apply for a continuing prescriptive endorsement, which would become part of the regular biennial licensure renewal process.

The legislation places clear limits on prescriptive authority. It does not allow naturopathic doctors to prescribe controlled substances, cancer chemotherapeutic drugs, or antipsychotic medications, nor does it permit the administration of therapeutic ionizing radiation or radioactive substances. In addition, the bills require naturopathic doctors to participate in extensive ongoing medical and pharmacological education, consistent with expectations placed on other medical practitioners.

Testimony from a national expert in pharmacology education, naturopathic regulatory authorities, and Alaska physicians demonstrates the successful role naturopathic doctors play in expanding access to primary health care in many other states. That testimony also underscores the unnecessary extra steps and added costs Alaska patients currently face when they must seek prescriptions elsewhere due to the lack of prescriptive authority for naturopathic doctors.

We believe SB 193 and HB 147 represent a balanced and thoughtful policy adjustment that would allow naturopathic doctors to more fully serve Alaska's primary care needs. We support a fair, thorough legislative committee process that carefully considers the range of perspectives on this issue.

Sincerely,
Interior Delegation
Alaska State Legislature



Representative McCabe – HD 30



Representative Stapp – HD 32



Representative Tomaszewski – HD 34



Representative Schwanke – HD 36



Senator Myers – SD Q



Representative Dibert – HD 31



Representative Prax – HD 33



Representative Carrick – HD 35



Senator Kawasaki – SD P



Senator Cronk – SD R