
3/30/2026

The Honorable Senator Myers
Alaska State Legislature
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: SUPPORT for SB9 Surrender of Infants; Inf. Safety Device

Dear Sen. Myers,

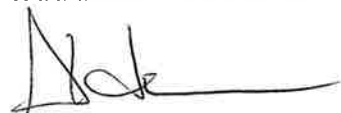
Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is an Alaska Native nonprofit organization dedicated to meeting the health and social service needs of Tribal members across Interior Alaska. Our mission is to provide a unified voice for sovereign tribal governments while promoting the physical and mental wellness, education, and cultural strength of our people. In alignment with our enduring commitment to community safety and well-being, TCC expresses strong support for Senate Bill 9, which modernizes Alaska's safe surrender laws to help prevent infant death and ensure surrendered infants receive immediate medical care.

Senate Bill 9 expands safe surrender options by authorizing the use of infant safety devices, allowing parents to anonymously surrender an infant in a secure and compassionate manner. These climate-controlled devices may be placed at health facilities, including those operated by tribal health organizations, and are equipped with automatic locking mechanisms and 911 alert systems to ensure prompt response by trained personnel. Like hospitals and other medical settings, TCC clinics serve as trusted places of safety, especially during moments of crisis, and are well-suited to provide a safe, dignified haven for infants in need.

We appreciate this legislation for its thoughtful and practical approach to protecting the most vulnerable. SB 9 strengthens Alaska's safety net for families facing unimaginable circumstances and reinforces community resilience by prioritizing both infant welfare and compassionate care. TCC believes this measure reflects shared values of protection, dignity, and collective responsibility, and we are proud to support its passage.

Sincerely,

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE



Sharon Hildebrand
Chief/Chairman
