



Alaska Nurses
Association

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April 2nd, 2026

Representative Mina
House Health and Social Services
State Capitol Room 416
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Representative Mina,

On behalf of the Alaska Nurses Association, we write in dedicated support of HB 244, an Act relating to certified nursing aide training and the standards required for this program, particularly in caring for patients with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, mental illness, and other cognitive impairments.

Strengthening training standards for certified nursing aides is a critical step toward improving the quality, safety, and compassion of care provided to some of Alaska's most vulnerable populations. Ensuring that caregivers are properly prepared to meet the complex needs of individuals with cognitive and behavioral health conditions will lead to better patient outcomes, improved workplace readiness, and greater support for families.

This effort reflects the kind of meaningful progress that requires collaboration among educators, healthcare providers, families, administrators, and community partners. We appreciate the work already underway and encourage continued commitment to policies and programs that prioritize high-quality training and patient-centered care.

We respectfully urge your continued support and advancement of HB 244.

Sincerely,

Shannon Davenport, MSN, BSN, RN
Alaska Nurses Association President
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