



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development

Corporations, Business, & Professional Licensing
Board of Pharmacy

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April 3, 2025

The Honorable Senator Giessel
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol Room 121
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: SB- 147A – Letter of Support

Dear Senator Giessel,

The Alaska Board of Pharmacy (“board”) unanimously supports SB 147A, An Act relating to the prescription and administration of drugs and devices by pharmacists; relating to reciprocity for pharmacists; and providing for an effective date, because it:

- Increases access to pharmacist-provided patient care services, allowing healthcare practitioners in Alaska to practice at the top of their education, training, and experience.
- Aligns with the standard of care, including models established within multiple other states, the federal healthcare system, the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, and the Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act.
- Encourages interdisciplinary collaboration for patient referral to other practitioners as needed, with pharmacists effectively working as part of the healthcare team to ensure access to safe care.
- Supports the board’s strategic plan, specifically goal #4 which is to grow Alaska’s economy while promoting community health and safety.

The board endeavors to promote, preserve, and protect the public health, safety, and welfare by and through the effective control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy. The board previously supported and provided testimony for HB 145 (2021-2022 Legislative Session), which added AS 08.80.337 Other Patient Care Services. Since the passing of that bill, the board received multiple inquiries about its applicability to independent prescribing. After feedback from the Alaska Department of Law, the Board recognized that clarifications were needed to allow pharmacists to practice at the top of their education, training, and experience. These changes, seen in SB 147A of the current legislative session, are important for overall access to patient care services in Alaska.

Pharmacists are highly qualified and educated healthcare professionals. We fully support the ability for pharmacists to exercise their education, training, and experience to promote community health and safety. As a regulatory body, we also support our ability to oversee these areas to the full capacity for the benefit to Alaskans and our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ashley Schaber".

Ashley Schaber, PharmD, MBA, BCPS
Chair, Alaska Board of Pharmacy