



Alaska APRN Alliance  
PO Box 240443  
Anchorage, AK 99524

March 10, 2025

Senator Cathy Giessel  
120 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alaska Capitol Room 121  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

Thank you for introducing SB 121 *“An Act relating to settlement of health insurance claims; relating to allowable charges for health care services or supplies; and providing for an effective date.”*

**The Alaska Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Alliance strongly supports the passage of this bill as it would ensure reimbursement rates for health care services are equally applied when billed under the same Current Procedural Terminology code by health care providers who are practicing under the scope of their license and authorization by their respective professional state board.**

APRNs are vital members of the health care system in Alaska particularly in the practice of primary care. APRNs practice independently in rural and remote communities across the state as well as urban centers. Many have their own practices or work in group practices with physician colleagues and physician assistants. **Ensuring consistency of reimbursement and equal pay for equal work is critical to assuring that APRNs can continue to provide care in Alaska.**

The most recent licensing data from the Alaska Board of Nursing indicates that there are over 2600 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in the State of Alaska. Of this number, a majority (approximately 2400) are Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP) who are practicing in primary care settings. CNPs are members of the health care delivery system and practice autonomously in areas such as family practice, women’s health care, pediatrics, internal medicine, geriatrics, cardiology, and oncology. CNPs are qualified to diagnose and treat patients with undifferentiated symptoms as well as those with established diagnoses.

In addition, Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) provide a full range of primary health services to women throughout the lifespan including gynecologic care, family planning, preconception, prenatal and postpartum care, childbirth, and care of a newborn. Their practice also includes treating male partners of female clients for sexually transmitted infections and reproductive health. There are approximately 65 CNMs licensed in Alaska as of 11/30/2024. APRNs in Alaska are also Certified Nurse Anesthesiologists and Clinical Nurse Specialists. Both have important roles in the delivery of health care in rural critical access hospitals and inpatient care across Alaska.

We thank you again for introducing this bill. We stand in support of uniform reimbursement standards and equal application of those standards.

Respectfully submitted,

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