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March 10, 2025

Senator Cathy Giessel
120 4th 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."*

As an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse specialized in Psychiatric Mental Health operating a small business clinic system serving a population 57% covered by Medicaid and Medicare in three communities, Anchorage, Fairbanks and Kenai, I respectfully request expansion of the language of the bill to include Mental / Behavioral Health services.

With such a expansion I would strongly support 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.

To echo the APRN Alliance passage of SB121 allows for **Ensuring consistency of reimbursement and equal pay for equal work is critical to assuring that APRN's can continue to provide care in Alaska.**

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners are qualified to diagnose and treat patients with undifferentiated symptoms. A desire to expand into integrated care

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with primary care would be more accessible if the reimbursement playing field was level.

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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