



Alaska APRN Alliance
PO Box 240443
Anchorage, AK 99524

March 11, 2024

Senator David Wilson, Chair
Senate Health and Social Services Committee
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Wilson,

On behalf of the Alaska Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Alliance, we express our support for Senate Bill 27 (SB27), titled "Insurance coverage for Contraceptives and Related Services." This critical legislation addresses the pressing challenges faced by Alaskans in accessing contraceptives, promoting comprehensive and equitable healthcare.

Currently, limited contraceptive coverage can exacerbate the risks of intimate partner violence, affecting half of Alaskan women. Additionally, one in five women grapple with reproductive control, underscoring the need for extended contraceptive access. Intimate partner sexual assault further magnifies the issue of access to prescriptive contraceptives. Alaska's geography and limited pharmacy access in rural and frontier Alaska contribute to inconsistent use of prescriptive contraceptives and thus put women at risk for an unplanned pregnancy.

SB27 provides a well-considered solution, mandating 12-month contraceptive coverage and empowering patients to choose their preferred contraception. This holistic approach aligns with our commitment to safeguarding the health, safety, and autonomy of Alaskans and their healthcare.

We urge the Alaska Senate Committee on Health and Social Services to recognize the significance of SB27 and actively support its advancement. By doing so, this bill can contribute to enhancing the overall well-being of Alaskans.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Marianne Johnstone-Petty, DNP, FNP-C, APRN, ACHPN
President
Alaska Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Alliance