

On Mar 5, 2025, at 8:20 AM, Harmony Billings <[harmonycbillings@gmail.com](mailto:harmonycbillings@gmail.com)> wrote:

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol Building

Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: Support for SB89

Dear Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for granting greater autonomy to physician assistants (PAs) in Alaska. As our state continues to face healthcare shortages, particularly in rural and underserved specialties, empowering PAs to practice without being tied to one specific physician will improve access to quality medical care for Alaskans.

Physician Assistants are highly trained medical professionals with rigorous education, clinical experience, and national certification. Alaska's PA regulations were developed in 1974. Since then, the landscape of Alaska medical care has changed. Many states have already modernized their laws to allow PAs to practice without direct physician supervision, leading to more efficient and accessible healthcare. More states each year are updating their statutes and regulations, allowing PAs to remain an important and relevant component of the medical team. By reducing unnecessary administrative barriers and allowing PAs to practice to the fullest extent of their experience and training, Alaska can better utilize its healthcare work force to meet growing demands.

Each and every community that partners with PAs stands to benefit significantly from this policy update. Many Alaskans live where medical care shortages create long wait times and other barriers to timely care. I urge you to support SB89. This change makes sense for Alaska and is supported by the Board of Medicine.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your dedication to improving healthcare for all Alaskans. Please support SB89.

Sincerely,

Harmony Billings