

1Department of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development

Corporations, Business, & Professional Licensing Board of Pharmacy

> P.O. Box 110806 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806 Main: 907.465.2550

March 20, 2023

The Honorable Senator Wielechowski Alaska State Senate State Capitol Room 103 Juneau, Alaska 99801 Senator.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov

Re: SB 55 – Extend State Medical Board – Letter of Support

Dear Senator Wielechowski,

The Board of Pharmacy ("board") is submitting its position on SB 55, an act extending the termination date of the State Medical Board; and providing for an effective date. During its March 20, 2023, meeting, the board discussed SB55 and voted to support it because of the importance of the State Medical Board in ensuring Alaskans have access to safe care. Additionally, it allows physicians to continue to enter into cooperative practice agreements with pharmacists. These agreements are important for healthcare access in Alaska as they allow pharmacists to partner in the healthcare team using their training and experience in medication therapy. These agreements have been in place for many years through partnership with the Board of Pharmacy and the State Medical Board.

The board supports this legislation and will continue to be a collaborative resource with the State Medical Board to optimize and expand access to safe care for Alaskans.

Thank you,

Ashley Schaber, PharmD, MBA, BCPS (Chair)

Alaska Board of Pharmacy

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