

From: [Krista Boone](#)
To: [Rep. Justin Ruffridge](#); [Rep. Jamie Allard](#)
Subject: Support for H.B. 202 "Opioid Overdose Drugs in Schools"
Date: Saturday, March 30, 2024 7:49:20 PM

Dear Co-Chairs Representative Justin Ruffridge and Representative Jamie Allard, and Members of the House Education Committee,

My Name is Krista Boone, a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska, and an advocate for Alaskan youth. I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 202, "Opioid Overdose Drugs in Schools." I urge you to support and advance this critical legislation, which seeks to equip our schools with life-saving opioid overdose reversal medications, such as Naloxone.

The opioid crisis remains a dire public health challenge across Alaska, affecting individuals of all ages, including our youth. The presence of opioid overdose reversal drugs in schools is not just a preventive measure but a necessary response to the growing risk of opioid-related incidents within our educational institutions. Research published in 2023 of the *Journal of Primary Care and Community Health*, "The Effect of Naloxone Access Laws on Fatal Synthetic Opioid Overdose Fatality Rates" found that an increase in Naloxone access has a significant impact on lowering fentanyl overdose death rates. Making Naloxone accessible in schools could mean the difference between life and death for students and staff alike.

I respectfully request your support for HB 202 to ensure that opioid overdose medication becomes a standard emergency resource in Alaska's public schools. This policy has the potential to save lives and demonstrates our collective commitment to the well-being of our students and educational staff.

Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] if you wish to discuss this matter further. Thank you for your time and consideration of this life saving policy.

Respectfully,

Krista Boone