



January 16, 2024

Dear Representative Carrick,

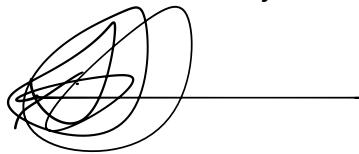
We are writing to express our support of House Bill No. 17 "An Act relating to insurance coverage for contraceptives and related services; relating to medical assistance coverage for contraceptives and related services; and providing for an effective date." As the CEO and Medical Director of Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic (KBFPC) we know that family planning decisions - if, when, and how many children to have - impact individual Alaskans, their families, and whole communities. KBFPC has provided reproductive healthcare, including a wide range of contraception, and sexual health education on the Kenai Peninsula for more than 40 years, including as part of the State of Alaska's Title X and TUPP programs. At KBFPC, Alaskans, regardless of their income or insurance status, can get high-quality care from licensed staff and choose from a variety of FDA-approved birth control methods including long-acting reversible contraception like IUDs, oral contraceptive pills, vaginal rings, emergency contraception, and more.

Healthy communities and strong families are made possible when Alaskan adults and teens have medically accurate information and widespread, consistent access to the contraception of their choice to make personal decisions about their reproductive health. Consistent access is supported by private or public insurance coverage that includes the wide range of choices that fit individual needs. Consistent access means more clinics providing more varieties of contraception. Consistent access is possible when coverage extends for the life of the prescription, even when an Alaskan changes their choice of contraception. HB17 will ensure that Alaskans can get a 12-month prescription for the birth control method of their choice and afford the reproductive healthcare they need.

Sincerely,



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