

April 3, 2025

Senator Donny Olson, Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee State Capitol Room 508 Juneau, AK 99801

RE: ANTHC Support of Senate Bill 133

Co-Chair Olson,

On behalf of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), I write in support of Senate Bill (SB) 133.

ANTHC is a statewide Tribal health organization serving all 229 tribes and all Alaska Native and American Indian (AN/AI) people in Alaska. ANTHC provides a wide range of statewide public health, community health, environmental health, and other programs and services for Alaska Native people and their communities. ANTHC and Southcentral Foundation operate programs at the Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC), the statewide tertiary care hospital for all AN/AI people in Alaska, under the terms of Public Law 105-83.

At ANMC and across the Alaska Tribal Health System, the current prior authorization process serves as an administrative challenge to our ability to provide needed health care services and medications in a timely and efficient manner. To preserve limited health care resources for direct patient care, it's critical that we work together to improve the existing prior approval process through a collaborative and coordinated effort. SB 133 is a product of this effort, representing a significant step in strengthening our care delivery system and the health of the patients we serve.

Thank you for your leadership in sponsoring SB 133 and appreciate the opportunity to provide written support of this important legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>mmartin@anthc.org</u> or 907-444-8808 with any questions or if additional information can be provided.

Sincerely,

Onique R. Martin

Monique R. Martin, Vice President Intergovernmental Affairs

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