



February 6, 2025

The Honorable Genevive Mina
House Health & Social Services Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Forrest Dunbar
Senate Health & Social Services Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Support for HB 73 and SB 76 – Complex Care Residential Homes

Dear Representative Mina and Senator Dunbar:

Foundation Health Partners (FHP) is a community-owned health system based in Fairbanks, dedicated to providing high-quality healthcare services to residents of Interior Alaska.

I am writing to express FHP's strong support for the Governor's HB 73 and SB 76 to establish a new residential license type in Alaska for complex care residential homes. As an organization dedicated to improving the care and quality of life in our region, FHP believes this legislation represents a critical opportunity to improve the state's system of care for some of our most vulnerable residents.

Interior Alaska is home to many individuals facing complex and interconnected challenges, such as mental health conditions, substance use disorders, developmental disabilities, and co-occurring medical issues. Currently, our healthcare system does not adequately address the full range of care that these individuals require. Individuals with complex needs often cycle in and out of our emergency room due to the lack of appropriate care options. This legislation has the potential to help prevent costly and ineffective emergency interventions and hospitalizations and reduce the burden on our overburdened healthcare system.

The establishment of a dedicated license type for complex care residential homes would create a framework for specialized settings equipped to meet the unique needs of this population. It offers a crucial step toward improving the health care system in Alaska, offering better outcomes for individuals, and reducing the reliance on emergency interventions, out-of-state placements, and unnecessary hospitalizations.

I strongly urge you to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shelley Ebenal".

Shelley Ebenal, CEO
Foundation Health Partners