



April 29, 2025

The Honorable Senator Tobin
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol Room 115
Juneau, AK 99801

Submitted via email to Senator.Loki.Tobin@akleg.gov

Dear Senator Tobin,

On behalf of the Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA), we extend our appreciation for your sponsorship of Senate Bill 89 and your ongoing commitment to improving access to quality healthcare across Alaska.

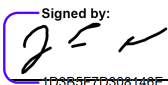
The APCA Board of Directors supports the intent of SB 89 to expand access to care by enhancing the role of Physician Assistants (PAs) in Alaska's healthcare system. After careful review and discussion, and the APCA Clinical Committee's recommendations, the APCA Board of Directors offers the following recommendation to strengthen Senate Bill 89:


APCA recommends that SB 89 be amended to require Physician Assistants (PAs) to complete 10,000 hours in a collaborative practice model with a physician prior to transitioning to independent licensure. Additionally, we recommend that a collaborating physician provide a letter of support in the PA's intended specialty area prior to this transition.

We believe these additions will ensure appropriate preparation and support for Physician Assistants as they increase access to care, while maintaining high standards of patient care and safety. We would support SB 89 with these recommended changes.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to continued collaboration in support of accessible, high-quality healthcare for all Alaskans.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:

Joshua Gilmore
APCA Board Chair


Dr. Stuart Marcotte
APCA Board Clinical Representative