



January 25, 2012

The Honorable Cathy Giessel
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 7
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Donny Olson
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senators Giessel and Olson:

As physician leaders of Providence Health and Services, Alaska's largest health system, we write today to thank you for introducing SB 144, and offer our strong support for this legislation.

We recognize the individual and public health consequences of unchecked infectious disease and believe that SB 144, with the goal of temporarily reinstating funding through the Department of Health and Social Services for adult and child immunizations, is a positive step. Providence believes it is our heritage and responsibility to advocate specifically for our state's most vulnerable population; our children.

Thank you again for introducing this legislation and thank you too for your work on behalf our public's health.

Sincerely,

Richard Mandsager, MD
CEO, Providence Alaska Medical Center

Roy Davis, MD
CMO, Providence Health & Services Alaska

Michael Acarregui, MD, MBA
Medical Director, Pediatric Subspecialty Services, Providence Alaska Medical Services

Tom Hunt, MD
Physician Chief Executive, Providence Medical Group Alaska

cc: Senator Bettye Davis
Commissioner Bill Streur