

February 13, 2012

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Please support SB 144. It is critical that children and families in our great state receive and have access to vaccinations, not only to ensure the overall health of our youngest members but also to lessen the possibility of dangerous infections ravishing our state. As a state that is working on improving our vaccine rates (we have been in the lowest 10 percent for past several years) it can only happen if we continue to have vaccines available for all of our citizens. As pediatric health care providers we know that if the Alaska vaccine program decreases or ends its subsidy, the people who will suffer are the working underinsured.

We urge you to support Senate Bill 144.

Sincerely,

The pediatricians and nurse practioners at Glacier Pediatrics

Dr. George Brown, Dr. Amy Dressel, Dr. Monica Gross, Dr. Kathy Stepien,
MaryEllen Arvola