

The Honorable Representatives Zack Fields and Carolyn Hall  
House Labor & Commerce Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Co-Chairs, Representatives Fields and Hall, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Chris, and I am a pharmacist practicing in Anchorage, AK. I am writing to express my strong support for **House Bill 195**.

I currently serve as an embedded clinical pharmacist within a cardiology clinic in Anchorage. Prior to this role, I practiced for 11 years as an embedded clinical pharmacist in a primary care clinic in Wasilla. In addition to earning my Doctor of Pharmacy degree, which included more than 2,000 hours of direct patient care training, I completed a postgraduate year one (PGY-1) pharmacy residency and am board certified in pharmacotherapy.

Throughout my career, I have worked as part of interdisciplinary healthcare teams managing patients with complex and chronic conditions. In my primary care role, once a patient received a diagnosis and was referred to me, I directly initiated, adjusted, and monitored medication therapies for a variety of chronic disease states. This included managing anticoagulation therapies, initiating and titrating insulin and oral diabetes medications, starting and monitoring hepatitis C treatment, and optimizing inhaler therapies for patients with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. I was responsible for ongoing dose adjustments, laboratory monitoring, patient education, and follow-up to ensure safety and efficacy. I believe these services improved access to care, reduced delays in necessary treatment adjustments, and allowed providers to focus their time on diagnostic evaluations and higher-acuity medical issues.

Despite this training and experience, current statutory barriers limit pharmacists from practicing to the full extent of their education. HB 195 would modernize Alaska's statutes by allowing pharmacists to independently prescribe and administer medications within the scope of their education, training, and experience, while requiring consultation and referral to other practitioners as appropriate. This bill would allow me to practice at the top of my clinical ability within a standard of care framework like other healthcare professionals, ensuring accountability while providing flexibility based on demonstrated competency. By streamlining patient access to pharmacist-provided services, HB 195 will improve health outcomes and reduce unnecessary burdens on providers and emergency departments.

I am confident in my ability to provide safe, effective care within my scope of training, and I remain committed to working collaboratively with physicians and other healthcare professionals to ensure the best outcomes for our patients.

I respectfully urge your support of HB 195 to expand access to high-quality healthcare services for Alaskans.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very respectfully,



Christopher Chong, PharmD, MBA-HM, BCPS, FAKPhA  
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