



Darwin

Promoting self-sufficiency and recovery...

434 Willoughby Ave.

P.O. Box 21661

Juneau, Alaska 99802

(907) 780-6775

(907) 780-6774-fax

email: polarishouse@alaska.net

RECEIVED

MAR 11 2009

March 6, 2009

Senator Bert Stedman
State Capital Building, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Stedman:

I Dorothy Green, Director of Polaris House strongly encourage you to schedule a hearing for SB 83 as soon as possible.

Polaris House is very much in support of SB 83. This legislation will bring state statute into compliance with federal law. It will also eliminate the need to change state statute every time federal law changes. This committee will also function as the assistive technology advisory council as required under federal law.

We support the name change of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to the State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. Since this committee provides oversight to the Vocational Rehabilitation program, the name will clearly align it with the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division Vocational Rehabilitation. The name change will also reduce the on-going confusion between this committee and the Governor's Council on Disability and Special Education.

Thank you for considering scheduling a hearing for SB 83. It is important that this committee is compliant with federal law to ensure continued funding which is critical to assist Alaskans with disabilities to become employed and have access to appropriate assistive technology services and devices. Please contact me at Polaris House if we can be of any assistance or provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Green, Director

March 6, 2009

RECEIVED

MAR 10 2009

Senator Bert Stedman
State Capital Building, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Stedman:

Alyeska Vocational Services strongly encourages you to schedule a hearing for SB 83 as soon as possible.

Alyeska Vocation Services is very much in support of SB 83. This legislation will bring state statute into compliance with federal law. It will also eliminate the need to change state statute every time federal law changes. This committee will also function as the assistive technology advisory council as required under federal law.

We support the name change of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to the State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. Since this committee provides oversight to the Vocational Rehabilitation program, the name will clearly align it with the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division Vocational Rehabilitation. The name change will also reduce the on-going confusion between this committee and the Governor's Council on Disability and Special Education.

Thank you for considering scheduling a hearing for SB 83. It is important that this committee is compliant with federal law to ensure continued funding which is critical to assist Alaskans with disabilities to become employed and have access to appropriate assistive technology services and devices. Please contact me at (907) 306-7258 if you would like more information.

Sincerely,



Keri Ornellas
Program Manager - Alaska Services

Darwin

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Assistive Technology of Alaska



2217 E. Tudor Rd., Suite 4
Anchorage, AK 99507
Phone (907) 563-2599
TTY/VP (907) 561-2592
www.atlaak.org

March 9, 2009

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MAR - 9 2009

Senator Bert Stedman
State Capital Building, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Stedman:

Assistive Technology of Alaska (ATLA) strongly encourages you to schedule a hearing for SB 83 as soon as possible.

Our agency is very much in support of SB 83. This legislation will bring state statute into compliance with federal law. It will also eliminate the need to change state statute every time federal law changes. This committee will also function as the assistive technology advisory council as required under federal law.

We support the name change of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to the State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. Since this committee provides oversight to the Vocational Rehabilitation program, the name will clearly align it with the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division Vocational Rehabilitation. The name change will also reduce the on-going confusion between this committee and the Governor's Council on Disability and Special Education.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Privratsky', is written over a circular stamp. The stamp contains the name 'Kathy Privratsky' and the title 'Executive Director' in a serif font.

Kathy Privratsky
Executive Director



Phone (907) 586-8228
Fax (907) 586-8226

213 Third Street
Juneau, AK 99801
www.reachak.org

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MAR - 9 2009

March 6, 2009

Senator Bert Stedman
State Capital Building, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

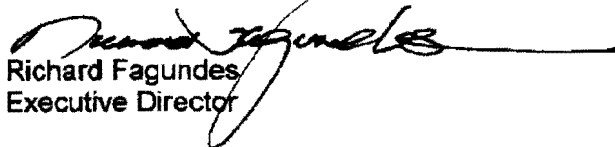
Dear Senator Stedman:

REACH, Inc. strongly encourages you to schedule a hearing for SB 83 as soon as possible. REACH, Inc. is very much in support of SB 83. This legislation will bring state statute into compliance with federal law. It will also eliminate the need to change state statute every time federal law changes. This committee will also function as the assistive technology advisory council as required under federal law.

We support the name change of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to the State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. Since this committee provides oversight to the Vocational Rehabilitation program, the name will clearly align it with the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division Vocational Rehabilitation. The name change will also reduce the on-going confusion between this committee and the Governor's Council on Disability and Special Education.

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Sincerely,


Richard Fagundes
Executive Director

Darwin

March 6, 2009

Senator Bert Stedman
State Capital Building, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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MAR - 9 2009

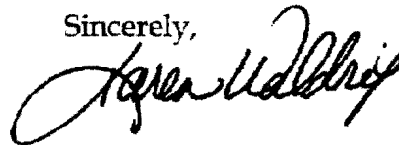
Dear Senator Stedman:

I strongly encourage you to schedule a hearing for SB 83 as soon as possible. I am a Community Rehabilitation Provider, Mobile Job Coach & Licensed Professional Counselor with Alaska's Renewable Resources, Workforce Consulting & SSI/SSDI Benefits Advocacy Agency and am very much in support of SB 83. This legislation will bring state statute into compliance with federal law. It will also eliminate the need to change state statute every time federal law changes. This committee will also function as the assistive technology advisory council as required under federal law.

I also support the name change of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to the State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. Since this committee provides oversight to the Vocational Rehabilitation program, the name will clearly align it with the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division Vocational Rehabilitation. The name change will also reduce the on-going confusion between this committee and the Governor's Council on Disability and Special Education.

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Sincerely,



Karen M. Waldrip, Med, LPC, CRP
Alaska's Renewable Resources