**Providence Alaska Medical Center** 

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February 28, 2012

The Honorable Bob Herron Alaska State House of Representatives State Capitol, Room 411 Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Herron:

As physician leaders of Providence Health and Services, Alaska's largest health system, we write today to thank you for introducing HB 310, and offer our strong support for this legislation.

We recognize the individual and public health consequences of unchecked infectious disease and believe that HB 310, 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

Tom Hunt, MD

Physician Chief Executive,

Providence Medical Group Alaska

Michael Acarregui, MD, MBA

Medical Director, Pediatric Subspecialty Services, Providence Alaska Medical

Services

cc:

Representative Wes Keller Commissioner Bill Streur