



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Anna Fairclough – House District 17

House Bill 149

“An Act relating to drivers’ licenses and to immunity for person who report persons who have a medical or other condition that may impair the ability to operate a motor vehicle.”

Driving is a privilege and with that privilege is the responsibility of an applicant or person licensed to report medical conditions that could impair their driving ability. The decision to self report can be a difficult decision to make. Family members worried about the safety of their family and the public often shoulder the burden of reporting loved one’s medical conditions to the Department of Motor Vehicles when they are unable to convince them to stop driving. Often doctors are asked to assist when the family has difficulty convincing loved ones that their medical condition or impairment will affect their driving performance.

House Bill 149 would provide immunity to physicians and any other person that choose to report to the Department of Motor Vehicles a person who applies for a license that has been diagnosed with disorders characterized by lapses of consciousness or other conditions that may impair a person’s ability to operate a motor vehicle.

A person who is licensed by the Board of Medicine is not subject to discipline by the board if the person makes a report in good faith to the Department of Administration.

The bill provides confidentiality for reporting and is exempt from disclosure. In addition, a physician or person who makes a good faith report is not liable for civil damages.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. I appreciate your support of House Bill 149.