



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

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March 17, 2014

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 510
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chairman Dunleavy,

This letter is in response to the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee's questions during the March 13th hearing on SB 156, Direct Entry Midwives.

During the hearing the Department was asked for the number of licensed certified direct-entry midwives currently practicing in rural Alaska. Sara Chambers, Professional Licensing Operations Manager, responded that while the Department does not track what communities a midwife may practice in, a reasonable estimation could be made based on the address of record provided during the application process. After review of these records, it was determined that there are two rural communities, Homer and Delta Junction, with a licensed direct entry midwife. The remainder of licensed direct entry midwives' residences are listed as Soldotna, Eagle River, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer, Wasilla, and Juneau. There is also one licensee whose residence is listed as Sandy, Utah.

State licensing exemptions exist for employees of tribal health programs. Under federal law any licensed health professional, criteria which would include direct entry midwives, who is employed by a tribal health program is exempt from State licensing requirements if they are licensed in another jurisdiction.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Habeger".

Don Habeger
Director