

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate District N

DATE: March 12, 2015

TO: Senator Mia Costello
Chair, Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

FROM: Senator Cathy Giessel 

RE: Request for Hearing, Senate Bill 71, "Vaccine Certification for Pharmacists"

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill 71 "Vaccine Certification for Pharmacists"** be scheduled for the Senate L&C Committee at your earliest convenience.

Currently, Alaska pharmacists require oversight by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner to oversee their immunization authority. SB 71 will give already-trained and certified pharmacists authority to immunize Alaska adults and children without having to contract with often hard-to-find doctors/nurse practitioners to oversee their immunization programs.

SB 71 expands authority for Alaska pharmacists to independently administer all vaccines and would reduce burdensome collaborative practice agreements. Studies have shown that states in which pharmacists are granted broad authority to administer vaccines have higher immunization rates.

Attached you will find:

1. SB 71 version W
2. SB 71 Sponsor Statement
3. SB 71 Sectional Analysis Forthcoming
4. SB 71 Letters of Support Forthcoming (quickly ☺)

Please contact Jane Conway, 465-3623, in my office if you need any further information.

[Senator Cathy Giessel@akleg.gov](mailto:Senator_Cathy_Giessel@akleg.gov)