

Anita Halterman

From: cinderbdt@gmail.com on behalf of Bryan D. Thomas <bryan.d.thomas@acm.org>
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 7:25 PM
To: Rep. Liz Vazquez
Cc: Sen. Donny Olson; Rep. Benjamin Nageak
Subject: HB 234 letter of support

Dear Rep Vazquez:

I want to thank you for introducing HB 234 (amending AS 21.54). I am writing to express my support. My family and I live in a part of Alaska that is not on the road system. It routinely costs hundreds of dollars for a one way airplane ticket to an Alaska population center like Fairbanks or Anchorage. One of our highest cost is travel, and one of our highest travel drivers is medical care. If HB 234 could help reduce travel, it would be good for our state and our climate.

Insured people in rural and urban locations could seek services from hundreds of different providers across the state.

We could get help from a wider range of providers, so we could preserve our choice and find the right fit for us. As parents of three small children, we often have trouble getting coverage, but if our kids are sick we could still make appointments from home.

Thank you for suggesting this change.

Allowing insurance coverage even before the first in-person appointment will help us find the right provider.

Regards,
Bryan Thomas