

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Representative Shelley Hughes  
House District 11 ~ Greater Palmer

March 13, 2015

Honorable Senator Stedman, Chair  
Health and Social Services Committee  
State Capitol Room 30  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Johnson,

I respectfully request CSHB8(JUD)am Power of Attorney and Substitute Decision-Making Documents bill be scheduled in committee at your earliest convenience.

House Bill 8 offers changes to existing power of attorney statutes, strengthening them by clarifying the responsibilities of the person receiving the power of attorney and revisiting the statutorily required form. While keeping our statutes customized for Alaska, specific to circumstances unique in our state, HB 8 also more closely aligns some statutory wording with other states' language to eliminate problems when the senior and the power of attorney live in different states. This is better for both the senior and the person serving as the power of attorney when the two are separated by a state line.

We honor our elders and have an obligation to help protect them as they enter a vulnerable time in life. This bill will strengthen existing statutes to better protect our seniors and better guide those who help care for them.

If you have any questions with regard to scheduling the bill, please contact Ginger Blaisdell at 465-5265.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shelley S. Hughes".

Shelley Hughes  
Representative  
District 11~Greater Palmer