



**AADD**  
**ALASKA ASSOCIATION ON**  
**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
**P.O. Box 241742**  
**Anchorage, Alaska 99524**

*To facilitate a united provider voice for best practices, advocacy, partnerships and networking.*

March 13, 2018

Dear Representative Parrish,

AADD, the Alaska Association on Developmental Disabilities, is the professional association representing the voice of forty six organizations in Alaska that provide home and community based services to individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Association has been an active and strong supporter of the development of the Shared Vision. The Vision brings a renewed energy and excitement to the work the provider community. The Shared Vision reminds each of us why we have dedicated our professional life to this field and where we want the focus of services to be, on the individual being supported.

We are so appreciative of Senator Micciche's SB174 that embeds the Shared Vision in statute. In statute this Shared Vision will provide a consistent and strong platform for individuals to lead their own services, rather than a bureaucracy. It enriches their lives and the fabric of the community in which they participate. Services matching the Shared Vision will provide for a more independence life and greater personal confidence for individuals. This will help stretch limited funds farther with greater participation in the community involving unpaid natural supports.

Having the Shared Vision in stature will assure that the underlying philosophy of dignity, respect and choice doesn't change with shifts in funding or political leaders. Thank you again for your time, attention and efforts on behalf of so many individuals in Alaska both providing and receiving services and supports.

Sincerely,

Lizette Stiehr  
Executive Director  
AADD