

## Continued Support For Senate Bill 156, Sponsored by Sen. Lora Reinbold (R-Eagle River)



Jesse Thacker

To  Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins;  Sen. Lora Reinbold;  Sen. Click Bishop;  Sen. Tom Begich;  Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson;  Sen. Shelley Hughes;  Sen. Lyman Hoffman;  Sen. Jesse Kiehl;  Sen. Robert Myers;  Sen. Joshua Revak;  Sen. Mike Shower;  Sen. Bert Stedman;  Sen. Scott Kawasaki;  Sen. Natasha Von Imhof;  Sen. Peter Micciche;  Sen. David Wilson; **+4 others**

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Good Afternoon Legislators,

The Alaska State Legislature must support B156

The US and the Alaska State Constitution both recognize a citizens fundamental right to self determination and privacy; meaning the right is not given but recognized as pre-existing in natural law.

This affirmed fundamental right to privacy is clearly recognized in our US Constitution's 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Not withstanding a citizens 1st Amendment right of religious liberty, free speech, and to peaceable assembly.

**Fourth Amendment**-The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

To be able to breach a persons right to privacy, one must be suspected of a crime, probable cause determined, and a search warrant issued by a judge from a court within the jurisdiction of a suspected crime.

Over the last 2 years government, corporations, and even private citizens began to and continue to demand full access to private citizens medical information. An individuals failure to allow such access or failure to publicly disclose their or their families private medical information began to viewed and treated as a crime. Although not officially recognized as a crime, the actions and treatment of individuals who failed to disclose medical information licensed their abuse by denying them access to services, employment, travel, as well as treatment with common decency from government and private businesses. These government endorsed actions began to receive acceptance as communal practice thus openly violating an all American Citizens US Constitutional Right to privacy under the 4th Amendment.

**The ADA, American Disabilities Act.** Strictly prohibits denying services based on medical conditions. This act requires government entities and encourages private entities to make accommodations for people with medical disabilities. - Under no circumstances, upon a person entering into a facility is medical proof required to prove said disability actually exists unless a citizen is applying for specialized services, government assistance or benefits, or seeking medical services.

**2010 Affordable Health Care Act** - Prevents / discourages private insurers from discriminating against prior health conditions for employees and their family's and removes requirement of any medical disclosure prior to receiving health care.

The above precedent is clear. If we do not protect peoples medical privacy, will it later be acceptable for the government and private entities to require medical proof for a person in a wheel chair to prove that their condition actually requires a wheel chair? If a person is permanently or temporarily injured, does not wish to be seen medically, nor wishes to have personal and medical privacy exposed publicly, will they be denied the ability to purchase a wheel chair? Will this not also encourage public and private corporation to require medical proof for the use of electrically driven shopping carts or any number of normally accessed services? At what point does common practice begin to breach and willfully violate the rights and laws clearly established in both our US and State Constitution?

Support SB156 is critical to honoring all citizens right to medical privacy and respecting the dignity/privacy of all people in the State of Alaska.

Thank You

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