

Electronic Mail: Senator.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov

March 22, 2023

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: AHHA Supports SJR 10 Medicare Reimbursement

Dear Senator Giessel,

For 70 years, the Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association (AHHA) has served as a non-profit trade association representing Alaska's hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare partners across the continuum of care. AHHA members play an invaluable role, both as community providers and essential employers, in cities, towns, and villages across Alaska.

AHHA is pleased to offer our support for SJR 10 to encourage Alaska's Congressional delegation and the federal government to raise Medicare reimbursement rates to meet the actual cost of care for the state's senior citizens.

AHHA is very concerned about the lack of access to primary care services for Alaskans covered by Medicare. The current reimbursement rates do not cover the actual cost of care for Alaska's seniors. AHHA members have worked hard over the years to provide care to Alaskan seniors on Medicare through supporting Medicare primary care clinics. Many physician practices are reluctant to see patients with Medicare due to the low reimbursement rates to care for people who may have complex care needs. Alaska has a rapidly growing senior population and this problem will likely get worse.

AHHA strongly supports the Senate Joint Resolution and we thank you for your advocacy on behalf of Alaska's seniors.

Sincerely,



Jared C. Kosin, JD, MBA
President & CEO