

SB 94 Profession of Pharmacy

Support Emails

Batch #1 as of 03/21/23

March 12, 2023
Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Majority Leader
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Support and Sponsorship of SB 94

Dear Senator Giessel:

Thank you for sponsoring SB 94 which relates to the practice of pharmacy and updates our pharmacy practice statutes, increases access to epinephrine auto-injectors, clarifies the board executive administrator's salary, and ensures that the Board has the power to support the Drug Supply Chain and Security Act (DSCSA) which relates to manufacturers, out-of-state pharmacies and internet pharmacies and their delivery of safe medications to Alaskans.

In my over 50-year career as a licensed Alaska pharmacist, I have seen our Statutes and Regulations evolve as my profession has grown. I served on the Alaska Board of Pharmacy twice in my career for a total of 16 years. We were always looking for ways to streamline and improve our Statutes to bring them into alignment with modern practice and with the statutes of other states for continuity. Doing so ensures that the Board continues its mandate to protect Alaskan's health, safety and welfare.

There are two pieces of this Statute update that I am especially interested in:

- **Replacing one of the two public member seats with a Pharmacy Technician seat.** Over the years, the public member seats have been hard to fill and often sit vacant. Pharmacy Technicians have become an integral part of our profession and their input is vital. We started talking about doing this when I was Board President from 2000-2004!
- **The adoption of regulations for a "retired" pharmacist status.** This would bring us into alignment with other states and with other professional licenses in Alaska. I was able to "retire" my licenses in Oregon and California and have wonderful certificates to display that fact. I got my Alaska license in 1970 and would like to "retire" that license as well. Even though I remain an active member my professional organization, I am no longer actively employed. Letting my license "lapse" feels like I am giving up on being a pharmacist. If I were able to "retire" my Alaska license, it would mean that I am still a pharmacist and care about my profession but just not actively employed.

Thank you,

Margaret Soden, RPh, Retired
PO Box 61328
Fairbanks AK 99706-1328
margaretsoden@gmail.com

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Majority Leader
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

As a student pharmacist in Alaska that is dedicated to optimizing healthcare for all Alaskans, I wanted to extend my appreciation for your support of SB 94, ""An Act relating to the Board of Pharmacy; . . .". The mission of the Alaska Board of Pharmacy is ultimately to ensure the safety and well-being of the Alaskan people by establishing clear standards for the practice of pharmacy. With this goal in mind, amendments are needed to current legislation to ensure accountability of all parties engaged in the practice of pharmacy and improved access to care, and your attentiveness to this issue has been vital to our ability to move forward.

SB 94 will modernize Alaska pharmacy statutes in the following ways:

- Increase diversity of representation by replacing one public member seat in the Alaska Board of Pharmacy with a pharmacy technician seat
- Improve access to life-saving epinephrine auto-injectors that can be used in the event of a severe allergic reaction
- Require pharmacists dispensing controlled substances to register with the controlled substance prescription database
- Regulate the qualifications of all parties involved in the profession of pharmacy, including drug manufacturers

By enabling the Alaska Board of Pharmacy to address current gaps in legislation, you are paving the way for improvements that can more fully address contemporary issues in pharmacy and better safeguard public health. I am grateful for your continued support as we strive to decrease barriers in healthcare and embrace changes that can better allow us to protect our fellow Alaskans.

Respectfully,

Amity Winborg
Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate 2024
UAA/ISU Doctor of Pharmacy - Anchorage
907.205.2734 amitywinborg@isu.edu

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Majority Leader
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Support of SB 94

Dear Senator Giessel,

I have been practicing pharmacy for 43 now, and it's been my privilege to have worked the last 22 years in Alaska. I currently work for Southcentral Foundation in the RASU Pharmacy handling the telepharmacy and mail out Rx needs of the native beneficiaries who live in the southcentral service area.

As a current member of the AK Pharmacist Association, I understand this new SB-94 is up for consideration and I'm writing to voice my support for this legislation. As I understand, this new legislation would:

- Streamline the licensure process while improving public safety
- Align pharmacy statutes with other AK boards' and other states' statutes
 - o Replace one of the two public member seats with a pharmacy technician seat
 - o Adopt regulations for retired pharmacist status
 - o Clarify board executive administrator's salary, allowing flexibility for a pharmacist to serve in this role in the future
- Increase access to epinephrine auto-injectors, medication delivery devices for anaphylaxis emergencies
- Ensure the Board of Pharmacy powers and duties support the Drug Supply Chain and Security Act (DSCSA) related to manufacturers, out-of-state pharmacies, and internet pharmacies to ensure Alaskans receive safe medications

Please support this bill and allow the Board of Pharmacy to continue to meet its mission in promoting, preserving, and protecting Alaskans' public health, safety, and welfare.

Sincerely,



Rod Gordon, R.Ph. AAHIVP

5684 Alora Loop Anchorage, AK 99504

340-513-4703 rodsg123@yahoo.com

From: Enderle, Annie <annieenderle@isu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 12:48 PM
To: Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support of SB 94 Profession of Pharmacy

Dear Senator Giessel,

As a future pharmacist and current pharmacy student in Alaska, thank you for your support of SB 94! SB 94, is the result of collaboration between the Alaska Board of Pharmacy and the Alaska Pharmacists Association (AKPhA) to modernize pharmacy practice statutes.

The Alaska Board of Pharmacy endeavors to promote, preserve, and protect the public health, safety, and welfare by and through the effective control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy. However, legislation is needed to ensure the Board of Pharmacy can continue to protect Alaskans.

SB94 will update pharmacy practice statutes to:

- Streamline the licensure process while improving public safety
- Align pharmacy statutes with other AK boards' and other states' statutes
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- Increase access to epinephrine auto-injectors, medication delivery devices for anaphylaxis emergencies

- Ensure the Board of Pharmacy powers and duties support the Drug Supply Chain and Security Act (DSCSA) related to manufacturers, out-of-state pharmacies, and internet pharmacies to ensure Alaskans receive safe medications

Please continue to support this bill and allow the Board of Pharmacy to continue to meet its mission in promoting, preserving, and protecting Alaskans' public health, safety, and welfare.

Sincerely,
Annie

Annie Enderle
ISU/UAA Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate, 2023 email: annieenderle@isu.edu

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Majority Leader
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Support of SB94

Dear Senator Giessel,

As a practicing pharmacist in Alaska, I ask for your support of SB 94. SB 94: "An Act relating to the Board of Pharmacy;....." is the result of collaboration between the Alaska Board of Pharmacy and the Alaska Pharmacists Association (AKPhA) to modernize pharmacy practice statutes.

The Alaska Board of Pharmacy endeavors to promote, preserve, and protect the public health, safety, and welfare by and through the effective control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy. However, legislation is needed to ensure the Board of Pharmacy can continue to protect Alaskans.

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Please support this bill and allow the Board of Pharmacy to continue to meet its mission in promoting, preserving, and protecting Alaskans' public health, safety, and welfare.

Sincerely,



Brittany L. Keener, PharmD, MPH, BCPS

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