
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:29 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Support for HB 58/SB 57

Please support HB 58/SB 57, establishing a new licensed residential setting type, Adult Care Home, that will allow individuals to open their homes and provide care for adults who have difficulty caring for themselves. Access to home and community-based services allows people with disabilities--including those with prenatal alcohol exposure/fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, of which reflects 47,680 people in Alaska, according to the Alaska Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (PAE) Partnership--to live regular and safe lives in their communities, utilizing in-home and community supports, all of which are less expensive than institutional care. I am an adult effected by alcohol in the womb, and I am one of the lucky ones, who is able to function quite well independently, although it is not without great cost as living with the effects of alcohol in the womb is difficult and exhausting, and without effective supports in place, many are unable to function successfully on their own. Sadly, once a person has aged out of receiving support, he/she may have nowhere to turn, resulting in homelessness, incarceration, hospitalization, or death, including suicide. This bill will provide a home-base and housing for many of our most vulnerable and could be ideal for biological, foster, or adoptive parents to receive compensation for caring for their adult children past the age of 18, allowing those effected to stay in their own homes and easing the financial burden of parents and foster-parents, while, at the same time, reducing the cost in the long-run for the State.

Thank you for reading my email and considering this very important and helpful bill. I am forever grateful for all the work you do for our most vulnerable. Barbara (Alex) Pastorino