

SJR

26



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Office of the President

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rep. Mae Tischer, Chair
House HESS Committee

From: Senator Jay Kerttula
Senate President

Subject: SJR 26, WAMI medical school positions

Date: March 20, 1984

Because of the increase in Alaska's population and the increase in qualified applicants for the WAMI program, it is necessary to increase Alaska's quota in this medical training program from 10 to 15.

Attached please find back-up information for Senate Joint Resolution 26.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jay Kerttula", written over the "From" field of the memorandum.



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, FA
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Initial letter to
selected legislators.
Sen. Kerthula reported
by introducing SJR
26

Applicant pressure has
further increased since
the graph was drawn

April 25, 1983

Dear ()

This is to solicit your support for increasing the number of WAMI medical school positions for Alaskan students from 10 to 15 positions per year.

Since 1975 the WAMI Program has provided a mechanism through which Alaska contracts for 10 positions for Alaskan students in each entering class of the University of Washington School of medicine. These ten Alaskan medical students take their first year of medical school on the Fairbanks campus. They then join their classmates from Washington, Montana and Idaho in Seattle for the second, third and fourth years of medical school. Parts of the third and fourth year curricula are taught in Anchorage and Ketchikan.

Each year Alaska ranks at or near the bottom of the national listings of the numbers of medical education openings per capita (see attachment #1). The number of Alaskan applicants to the program continues to increase. (See attachment #2) This year 49 students are contending for 10 places.

The present 10 positions per year will provide only half the number of new physicians needed to simply replace physicians leaving Alaskan practice through normal attrition (600 m.d.s with 30 years practice duration = 20 replacements needed per year). Population growth will of course add to this requirement.

The University of Washington School of Medicine is, for the first time since 1975, in a position to accept more Alaskans. We can add more students to the first year class in Fairbanks without additional cost. This is true because our faculty needs are based on the range of subjects taught, not on class size. If we accept more Alaskans into the program we must, however, be prepared to pay the University of Washington for teaching these student in the second, third and fourth years. The cost per student year will be approximately \$30,000. Thus the added costs of moving from 10 to 15 positions per year are as follows as the four year medical school program is filled.

Additional Students

Fiscal Year	University of Alaska	University of Washington	Additional Cost
F.Y.84	5	0	\$ 0
F.Y.85	5	5	\$150,000
F.Y.86	5	10	\$300,000
F.Y.87 (and succeeding years)	5	15	\$450,000

We now have accepted our authorized class of 10 students for the coming academic year. We have, in addition, designated 7 fully qualified alternates.

We could admit up to 5 of these alternates to the coming year's program without an appropriation. We would, however, be incurring a major financial commitment in succeeding years. We thus feel we must have some substantive action by the State government endorsing this program expansion and, insofar as possible, committing future support.

Senator Kerttula has agreed to sponsor a resolution along these lines. I hope you will be able to support this effort.

Sincerely,

Wayne W. Myers, M.D.
Director, WAMI Program

attach: 2
WWM/eh

1980-81
ENTRANCE TO MEDICAL SCHOOL
BY STATE OF RESIDENCE

RANK #	STATE	ENTRANCE PER 100,000 POPULATION	
		<u>ALL SCHOOLS</u>	<u>STATE SCHOOLS</u>
1	NEBRASKA	12.2	9.5
2	SOUTH DAKOTA	11.6	9.6
3	NORTH DAKOTA	11.3	9.8
4	NEW YORK	11.1	3.2 *
8	MINNESOTA	8.6	6.6
11	OHIO	8.0	6.4
44	MAINE	4.9	0 +
44	WASHINGTON	4.9	2.9
48	FLORIDA	4.8	2.1
	MONTANA	4.7	2.5
48	ARIZONA	4.5	3.2
49	ALASKA	4.0	2.5
50	IDAHO	3.7	2.1
51 **	NEW HAMPSHIRE	2.4	0 †

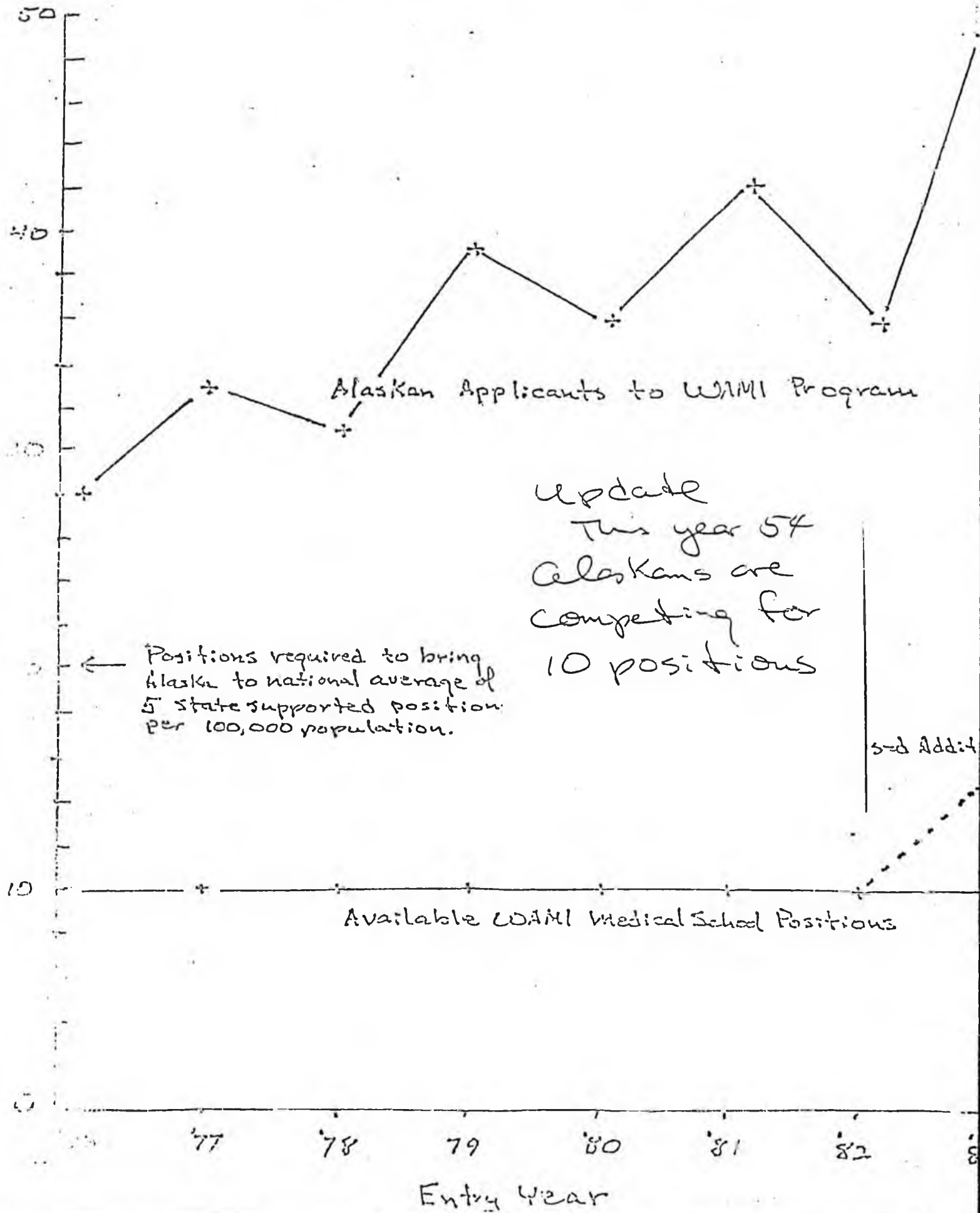
* NEW YORK HAS 4 STATE SCHOOLS, BUT ALSO PROVIDES STATE \$ TO SEVERAL PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN RETURN FOR ADMITTING NEW YORK RESIDENTS.

† MAINE HAS NO MEDICAL SCHOOL, BUT ARRANGES FOR VERMONT AND TUFTS TO TAKE MAINE RESIDENTS (APPROX. 3.1 PER 100,000 POP.)

‡ NEW HAMPSHIRE HAS NO STATE SCHOOL, BUT 1.3 PER 100,000 POP. IN NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS ENTERED DARTMOUTH THIS YEAR.

§ PUERTO RICO WITH THREE MEDICAL SCHOOLS, FALLS IN THE MIDRANGDE AS A 51ST "STATE".

WAMI Program Alaskan Applicants and Positions





STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

May 12, 19

*Inquiry from
Harry Crawford and
response.*

*Response indicates
that cost of \$30,000
per student-year is an
upper limit figure -
actual cost would be
slightly lower.*

Wayne W. Myers, M.D.
Director, WAMI Program
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Dear Dr. Myers:

Thank you for your letter soliciting the Governor's support for increasing the number of WAMI medical school positions for Alaskans.

As I understand this program, Alaska currently contracts for 10 students per year. Now, the University of Washington is proposing to increase our "quota" to 15, and you are requesting our support for this increase. I have a few questions for which I would appreciate answers before I can formulate a recommendation on this issue. I requested information on WAMI costs and have been provided the figures listed below.

1982-83 Costs

(i)	Student Fees (Paid to U of W)	
	<u>Student Level</u>	<u>Per Student Fee</u>
	1st Year	at Fairbanks
	2nd Year	\$25,737
	3rd Year	\$25,416
	4th Year	\$16,988

(ii) Administrative Cost (Paid to U of W)

Overall Program Administration	\$ 91,531
Clinical Site Cost (Travel)	48,896
U of W Faculty Support	<u>46,903</u>
	\$187,330

(iii) University of Fairbanks costs cannot be identified specifically for these students.

If these are incorrect, please correct them; if you can expand upon them, please do so.

Wayne W. Myers, M.D.

-2-

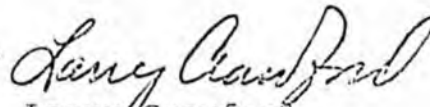
May 12, 1983

You have indicated that the per year cost of these new students is approximately \$30,000 each. How does that relate to the breakout above? Will the 2nd year cost be increasing for U of W or will the administrative costs increase due to the increased number of students? Are these administrative costs fixed by the WAMI contract or do they change annually? How are they set? Similarly, do the per student fees change or have we always paid \$16,988 per 4th year student, for example? If they do change, how are they set?

Finally, I would like to know how successful our eight years of WAMI participation have been. Specifically, how many Alaskan WAMI students have graduated and returned to practice medicine in Alaska?

Provided with these answers and information, I will be much better able to make a recommendation on your request. Thank you again for calling this to our attention.

Sincerely,



Larry Crawford
Chief of Staff

May 20, 1983

Larry Crawford
Chief of Staff
Office of the Governor
State of Alaska
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Thank you for your letter of 12 May regarding WAMI medical student positions. Before moving to more detailed information, I should make clear that the figure of \$30,000 per student year which I quoted was a simplified upper limit figure, taking into account probable inflation over the proposed transition period of at least four years. The intent is to avoid any later impression that this program expansion had been sold on less than full revelation of the overall cost.

Charges by the University of Washington to Alaska for educating its medical students are based on a cost study by Kasonic, Chavelle & Associates submitted in 1974. Since then, Mr. Kasonic has periodically updated the original figures to consider inflation. The full cost study has not been repeated. A copy of the original cost finding procedures, the most recent inflation update and our FY83 bill from the U of W are attached.

Costs of training second year, third year and fourth year students are developed as noted above. Resident tuition and fees paid by Alaska WAMI students to the U of W are subtracted. We are billed for the difference. Tuition and fees are set by the Washington State legislative process and hence difficult to predict.

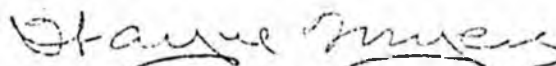
The items designated in your letter as "Clinical site cost (Travel)" represents the extra expense of operating obstetrics/gynecology, family medicine and psychiatry training units in Anchorage and a family medicine training unit in Ketchikan, compared to the cost of operating similar units in Seattle. If we are to increase Alaskan class size it may become highly desirable to develop a fifth clinical training site in the state. This would add \$10,000 to \$15,000 to our annual bill.

Finally, I have attached our most recent data on the whereabouts of WAMI graduates. After graduation from medical school, M.D.s spend three or more years in internship and residency training. There are no such training programs in Alaska. Also, some students assume military or National Health Service Corps obligations in return for scholarships in medical school. Of twenty-one Alaskans who have completed their training and service obligations, nine are practicing in Alaska. Thirty-nine are still in medical school. Thirty-three are in internships, residency training, or fulfilling federal service obligations.

Another indicator of success of the program is to recognize it as a four state network which includes medical school internships and residencies. The WAMI Program, as thus defined, has helped train about half the family physicians who have entered practice in Alaska in the past 10 years.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know what additional information might be useful.

Sincerely,



Wayne W. Myers, M.D.
Director, WAMI Program

WEM/bm
Enclosures

CO-CHAIR
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES
VICE-CHAIR
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS
FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES
RURAL EDUCATION BUDGET OVERSIGHT
CORRECTIONS
MEMBER
RULES

Alaska State Legislature



Representative Mae Tischer

13 May 1

Selected Responses
Note supporting resolution from the State Medical Society

Wayne W. Myers, M.D.
Director, WAMI Program
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Fairbanks, AK. 99701

Dear Dr. Myers:

It's nice to hear from you again. It's been a number of years since we corresponded while I was District Director of Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Regarding your request for increasing medical school positions, the House members will very shortly be acting on the State operating budget, which has already gone through the hearing process including the "C" of A budget.

Representative Terry Martin, Chairman of Finance Subcommittee, has received a copy of your letter from me and if there are any revisions to be made, he will be recommending them.

The WAMI program has been a great success for our students and merits our support.

Thanks again for writing. It was good to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Mae Tischer

Representative Mae Tischer
District 11

MT/sgw

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

INTERIM OFFICE:
P.O. BOX 81435
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99708

IN SESSION
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 485-4830/4441



Representative Mike Davis
House District 19

CHAIRMAN
1983 INTERIOR DELEGATION

MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES
LABOR SUBCOMMITTEE
JOINT OIL AND GAS
RURAL EDUCATION ATTENDANCE AREAS

May 4, 1983

Wayne Myers, M.D.
Director, WAMI Program
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Dr. Myers,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the WAMI program.

I am pleased to learn that an opportunity presently exists for additional Alaskan students to enter the WAMI medical program, and I believe that this situation should be taken full advantage of.-----

Alaska has traditionally experience a great deal of attrition in many professional areas, including the field of medicine, and I believe that by allowing 15 students per year to enter the WAMI medical school it will be possible to achieve a greater degree of stability in this field.

You have my support for the resolution which Senator Kerttula will be introducing during this legislative session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike".

Rep. Mike Davis



SENATOR
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

2957 SHELDON JACKSON
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
SENATE DISTRICT F, SEAT A

Alaska State Legislature



Senate

While in Juneau
FOURTH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
(907) 465-3318

M E M O R A N D U M

May 5, 1983

TO: Senator Jalmar Kerttula
President of the Senate

FROM: Senator Arliss Sturgulewski (A)
Senate District F, Seat A

RE: WAMI Medical School Positions

I understand that serious consideration is being given by the University of Alaska to increase the number of WAMI medical school positions for Alaskan students from 10 to 15 per year. I am attaching a copy of the material I received from Wayne Myers, M.D., Director of the WAMI program. Over the past years, it has been extremely difficult for qualified Alaskans to enter this program due to the limited number of positions available. I am delighted to hear that you have agreed to sponsor a resolution supporting additional slots for the WAMI program. I would be pleased to co-sponsor your resolution.

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Wayne Myers
Dr. Jeanne Bonner



ALASKA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

4107 Laurel Street • Suite 1 • Anchorage, Alaska 99504 • (907) 562-2662



ADOPTED BY THE ALASKA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN CORDOVA, ALASKA MAY 28, 1983

RESOLUTION NO. 83 - 20

SUBJECT: Support for WAMI Program Increase

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska supports Alaskan residents participating in the WAMI Medical Education Program; and

WHEREAS, the number of qualified applicants has increased and available positions remained the same (10 students); and

WHEREAS, other states support over three times as many state supported medical students as Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's population is increasing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the ASMA support an increase in the number of WAMI students entering the program from 10 to 15.

DISTRIBUTION: Governor
Legislature
Dept. Of Health & Social Services
Pres. Local Societies
Local Legislative Chairmen
Rick Urion
AK State Hospital Assoc.
AK Medicine
Wayne Myers, Univ. of Alaska
University of Washington

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1983-1984 86/2

2301 HHESS SJR 26 - SJR 27 2301



Alaska State Legislature

Senate

May 3, 1983

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

CHAIRMAN
RULES COMMITTEE

JAN FAIKS
POUCH V
CAPITOL BUILDING
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

Wayne W. Myers, M.D.
Director, WAMI Program
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Dr. Myers:

Thanks for providing me with information on need for additional WAMI medical school positions for Alaskan students.

While I believe WAMI is an excellent program and I support the opportunities it provides our students with career choices they may not otherwise have, I'm afraid that the financial reality of declining state revenues is forcing the Legislature to make some pretty tough decisions. We are having to reduce and make substantial funding changes in many programs -- and it seems there is always someone there with good reasons why we shouldn't take such action. At the same time, it would be extremely difficult to justify any increases in an existing programs -- such as WAMI.

I regret I can't support your request at this time. You have my support, but unfortunately I just don't believe we can afford the additional positions at this time.

Sincerely,



Jan Faiks
Senator

JF:cf

ALASKA RESIDENT

WAMI MEDICAL STUDENTS

CURRENT STATUS

(MARCH 84)

ENTRY YEAR	MED SCHOOL	INTERN or RESIDENT	PRACTICE		
			U.S. GOVT.	ALASKA	ELSEWHERE or UNKNOWN
83	10				
82	10				
81	10				
80	9				
79	2	8			
78		8		1	
77		10			
76		1	1	2	6
75				4	6
74		1		3	
73			1		2
72				1	2
71				1	4
	41	28	2	13	20

STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS WHO HAVE SETTLED IN ALASKA SINCE 1971

<u>Name</u>	<u>Student/ Resident</u>	<u>Practicing City</u>	<u>Specialty</u>
Ermel, Alfred	R	Elmendorf AFB	FP
Freudenthal, Allen	S	Bethel	FP
Isto, Sarah	*S/R	Juneau	FP
Kruse, Donald	*S	USPHS-Bethel	FP
Marx, Bill	*S	Ht. Edgecumbe	FP
McCreight, William	R	Juneau	FP
Highswander, Thomas	R	Anchorage	FP
Olsen, Eric	S/R	Juneau	FP
Seaman, Jill	S	Bethel	FP
Spencer, John	*S	Anchorage	FP
Todd, Kathleen	R	Valdez	FP
Tooney, Kathleen	R	Kotzebue	FP
Ude, Marianne J.	*S	Kodiak	FP
Vaught, Rodney	S/P.	Sitka	FP
Wilbur, Jean	*S	Fairbanks	FP
Wood, Tom	S	Petersburg	FP
Worrall, William	*S	Anchorage	FP
Barrett, David	R	Anchorage	IM
Bell, William H.	*S	Homer	IM
Bing, Kenneth	R	Anchorage	IM
Boyle, Loueen	S	Juneau	IM
Cole, William	Fac.	Juneau	IM
Garrett, David	R	Anchorage	IM
Mues, John	*S	Anchorage	IM
Kulin, Stephen D.	*S	Anchorage	Anesthes
McGuire, Jim	R	Anchorage	Psych
Poppin, John	R	Anchorage	Psych
Winslow, Dick	S	Anchorage	Psych
Brennan, Ron	S	Bethel	Peds
Briggs, James D.	*S	Fairbanks	Peds
Egan, Harwood	R	Fairbanks	Peds
Emerson, Susan	S	Anchorage	Peds/Ob
Johnson, Dave	R	Ketchikan	Peds
Schultz, Nancy	R	Fairbanks	Peds
LaMagie, Susan	*S	Wasilla	Ob/Gyn
Cox, James	R	Anchorage	Ophth
Tokar, Ronald Lee	S/R	Juneau	Ophth
Dohan, Peter	R	Anchorage	Path
Levenston, Pohert	R	Anchorage	Rad
Moeller, David	R	Anchorage	Rad

* Student spent the first year of training at the University of Alaska

Home Towns of Alaska Students Entering UWSM
1971 to 1983

<u>Home Town</u>	<u>Number of Student</u>
Anchorage	36
Chugiak	1
College	2
Dillingham	1
Fairbanks	36
Homer	1
Hoonah	1
Juneau	8
Kasilof	1
Ketchikan	2
Kodiak	2
Meyers Chuck	1
Mt. Edgecumbe	1
Ninilchik	1
Nome	2
Seward	2
Sitka	3
Sleetmute	1
Unalakleet	1
Wasilla	1
Wrangell	1

Alaska Practice Locations: Graduates of UWSM M.D. Program
and Residency Programs, 1971 to Present

<u>Practice Location</u>	<u>Number of Physicians</u>
Anchorage	16
Bethel	4
Elmendorf AFB	1
Fairbanks	4
Homer	1
Juneau	5
Ketchikan	2
Kodiak	1
Kotzebue	1
Mt. Edgecumbe	1
Petersburg	1
Sitka	3
Valdez	1
Wasilla	1