

HJR

10

Session:
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-4457 Office
(907) 465-3519 Fax
(800) 928-4457 Toll Free

Alaska House of Representatives
David Guttenberg



District 8

Interim:
1292 Sadler Way
Suite 304
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-3171
(907) 456-8172
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MEMO

To: **Senator Bettye Davis**
Senate Health & Social Services Committee

From: Representative David Guttenberg

Date: March 30, 2009

Re: HJR 10- Veterans' Health Care

I respectfully request that you schedule HJR 10- Veterans' Health Care for the Health and Social Services Committee's consideration at your earliest convenience.

Enclosed are:

- A copy of the most recent version of the bill
- Sponsor statement
- Letters of support and other backup information
- Fiscal note

I look forward to discussing the merit of this resolution in the Senate. My staff, Chris Reid, is assigned to this legislation if there are any questions, 465-4457. Any additional materials we wish to place before the committee will be submitted no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled hearing.

Anderson • Cantwell • Chena • Denali Park • Ester • Geist • Goldstream • Healy • Pike
University Campus • University Hills • University West
Representative_David_Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/27/09

FURTHER: State Affairs

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: _____

Health and Social Services Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10(HSS)

HJR 10 VETERANS' HEALTH CARE

Urging the United States Congress to improve health care for veterans.

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:
 Same Title
 New Title

HOUSE BILL:
 Same Title
 Technical Title Change
 New Title w/ SCR # _____

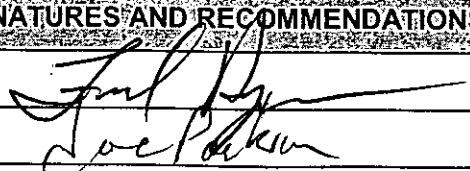


NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

| Department | Date | Fiscal | Indet | Zero | FN# |
|------------|------|--------|-------|------|-----|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
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| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

| Department | Date | Fiscal | Indet | Zero | FN# |
|------------|------|--------|-------|------|-----|
| MVA | 3/25 | | | ✓ | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

| SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS: | PRINTED LAST NAME | DO PASS | DO NOT PASS | NO REC | AMEND |
|--|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------|-------|
|  | Polk | ✓ | | | |
|  | POLK | X | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| CHAIR:  | DAVIS | X | | | |

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



SESSION:
Alaska State Capitol, Room 418
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-4457 Office
(907) 465-3519 Fax
(800) 928-4457 Toll Free

INTERIM:
1292 Sadler Way, Suite 304
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Representative David Guttenberg

CSHJR 10 (MVA) Sponsor Statement

CSHJR 10 (MVA) urges the United States Congress to provide the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) with the funding and resources necessary to enable the Veterans Health Administration to provide sufficient, timely and predictable health care for all veterans.

The Partnership for Veterans Health Care Budget Reform, an association of national veterans groups, has found that the current funding mechanism for veterans' health care is "unreliable" and subject to "great political wrangling." Without a streamlined, comprehensive and accessible health care system, many veterans are denied the health care they are entitled to.

As the number of veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq suffering from traumatic brain injury, post traumatic stress syndrome and other combat-related injuries is increasing, the need for access to quality health care, including mental health and substance abuse treatment, is increasing as well. Veterans returning from these wars are entitled to five years of health care from the VA without charge, regardless of the priority group to which they are assigned. However, they are only reimbursed for the cost of traveling to access that care if they meet certain eligibility criteria.

Many Alaskan veterans have access to outpatient care at a variety of urban facilities – including the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System facility in Anchorage, the Veterans Affairs Community-based Outpatient Clinics at Fort Wainwright and in Kenai, and the soon-to-open facilities in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Juneau, and Homer. There is also a system in place that allows Alaskan veterans living in outlying areas to access quality health care at local community health centers. However, there are still many veterans living in rural areas that are unable to access health care in their communities, resulting in costly travel to central locations to receive that care.

CSHJR 10 (MVA) supports efforts to ensure that veterans across Alaska have access to quality health care in the outlying areas where the VA does not have clinics, including at Community Health Centers, community mental health centers, substance abuse treatment centers, tribal health organizations, and other appropriate local providers. It also supports increased funding for research into traumatic brain injuries and encourages the Veterans Health Administration to improve its electronic claims process and ability to use information contained in military records in order to provide a more efficient health care delivery system.

Representative.David.Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us
<http://guttenberg.akdemocrats.org>

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHJR 10(MLV)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/25/2009

Identifier (file name): _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title: CSHJR 10 VETERANS' HEALTH CARE RDU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor: Representative David Guttenberg
 Requester: Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Component Number _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| | Appropriation Required | Information | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | FY 2010 | FY 2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | | | | | | | | |
| Personal Services | | | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | | | |
| Other Interagency Receipts | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: _____

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee Phone _____
 Division _____ Date/Time _____
 Approved by: Represtatave Carl Gatto Date 2/24/2009



March 12, 2009

The Honorable Representative David Guttenberg
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska

Support for CSHJR 10 Improve Health Care for Veterans

Dear Representative Guttenberg;

On behalf of the members of the Alaska Behavioral Health Association, I am writing to pledge our support for CSHJR 10. The members of this association provide mental health and substance abuse treatment and services across this state. We support federal and state funding and other efforts to ensure that veterans across the state have access to quality health care. We would also ask for an increase in funding and emphasis on suicide prevention. This is health crisis of epidemic proportions and a bright spotlight needs to be shone upon this issue to bring attention to a problem that we could solve.

Thank you for bringing this issue to the attention of the legislature and I trust we will see something good come from this effort.

In Health,

Steve Horn
Executive Director



abha

2009

The Alaska Behavioral Health Association (abha) is a statewide trade association whose members are the primary providers of behavioral health services in Alaska. The mission of abha is to enhance behavioral health and quality of life for all Alaskans by providing leadership which insures high quality, affordable behavioral health services.

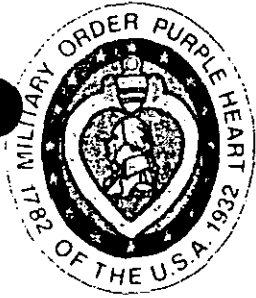
Members of abha support the following principles:

- Ensure that beneficiaries of services have access to a community-based continuum of care that provides individualized comprehensive treatment.
- Promote community-based behavioral health services as the most appropriate, clinically effective, and cost sensitive method for providing care to individuals in need.
- Advocate for appropriate public policy and adequate funding for each service by working with the administration and legislature at both the state and national levels.
- Serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among providers and their constituents.
- Work to ensure our members are positioned as mainstream healthcare providers in any state or national healthcare system reforms.
- Support education, research and evaluation, technical assistance, professionalism, family/consumer involvement, and outcome-oriented services.

2009 abha Membership

| Organization | Community |
|--|------------|
| Akeela | Anchorage |
| Alaska Children's Services | Anchorage |
| Alaska Family Services | Palmer |
| Alaska Island Community Services | Wrangell |
| Alaska Youth & Family Network | Anchorage |
| Anchorage Community Mental Health Services (Southcentral Counseling) | Anchorage |
| Area of Anchorage | Anchorage |
| Asana, Inc. | Anchorage |
| Was-Su Health Services | Wasilla |
| Bristol Bay Counseling Center (BBACC) | Dillingham |
| Boys and Girls Home of Alaska | Fairbanks |
| Catholic Community Service | Juneau |
| The Center | Homer |
| Community Connections, Inc. | Ketchikan |
| Dana Family Services | Anchorage |
| Edger Mother Health Center | Galena |
| Fairbanks Community Behavioral Health Center, Inc. | Fairbanks |
| Fairbanks Native Association | Fairbanks |
| Family Centered Services of Alaska | Fairbanks |

| Organization | Community |
|--|------------|
| Frontier Community Services | Soldotna |
| Gateway Center for Human Services | Ketchikan |
| Impact Counseling | Haines |
| Juneau Alliance for Mental Health, Inc. | Juneau |
| Juneau Youth Services | Juneau |
| Kenai Peninsula Care Center | Kenai |
| Lynn Canal Counseling | Haines |
| Marillag Association | Kotzebue |
| North Star Behavioral Health System | Anchorage |
| Peninsula Community Health Services | Soldotna |
| Petersburg Mental Health Services, Inc. | Petersburg |
| Railbelt MH and Addictions | Nenana |
| SEARHC - Behavioral Health Service Division | Sitka |
| SeaView Community Services | Seward |
| Sitka Counseling and Prevention Services | Sitka |
| Southcentral Foundation Behavioral Health Services | Anchorage |
| Volunteers of America of AK | Anchorage |
| Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation | Bethel |



Military Order of the
Purple Heart
Department of Alaska



Date: March 6, 2009

**The Honorable David Guttenberg
House Military and Veterans Affairs
Alaska State Capitol, Room 418
Juneau, AK 99801-1182**

Subject: Support for HRJ 10.

Dear Representative Guttenberg, and other sponsors/supporters of HJR 10.

The MOPH, Department of Alaska, is in full support of HJR 10 and its intent to provide the best health care available to our veterans. Those who answered the call to defend our country have fully earned the right to have the country be there for them in their time of need.

As the current military conflict continues there will be an ongoing need to care for those who will stand among others who served previously. It is only fair for our nation to provide the care and assistance that our veterans have rightfully earned. Reasonable access to that health care is equally important, especially to those who suffer the most and often need special assistance just to get to the location providing that health care. While many veterans are fortunate to be able to drive to and walk to the point of health care assistance, it is important to not forget about those who need wheel chairs or other special assistance. The need to reach out to provide adequate care can be stated like this "LET NO VETERAN BE LEFT BEHIND" and that responsibility falls on the system charged with providing the health care that has already been paid for by our nations veterans.

HRJ 10 is a commendable approach in proving that Alaska truly cares about its veteran population. As such HRJ 10 has the support of the MOPH, Department of Alaska.

Don Siebels
**Don Siebels
MOPH, Department Commander, Alaska**

ALASKA PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION, INC.

"... Uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



Honorable Mike Chenault
Honorable Members of the House of Representatives
Juneau, Alaska 99801

March 12, 2009

Re: Support of CSHJR 10 (HSS) *Veterans' Health Care*

Dear Speaker of the House Chenault and Members of the House of Representatives,

The Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA) works to promote primary care access for all Alaskans and is strongly in support of CSHJR 10 (HSS) *Veterans' Health Care*. Many of the veterans in Alaska reside in outlying areas where they are unable to access VA health care facilities. Veterans need and deserve high quality health care that is readily accessible.

When veterans' medical conditions are not service-related and do not meet certain criteria, veterans in outlying areas have three choices: 1) cover their own expenses to travel to access VA care; 2) go without needed care; or 3) access services at a non-VA clinic, very likely to be one of the 141 Community Health Center (CHC) sites in the state. Many veterans cannot afford the first choice; in addition, paying for plane fare for a strep test or a bout with the flu is unreasonable. Sadly, the second choice – not receiving needed care – is far too common; our veterans deserve better.

For those veterans who opt for the third choice, often, the CHC does not receive reimbursement because the veteran did not file the necessary paperwork in advance. The CHC typically eats the cost. Although the APCA has been working with the Alaska VA Health Care System to increase access for veterans who live outside the vicinity of the VA clinics, little progress has been made due to federal barriers. Currently, veterans cannot readily use their VA health benefits to receive care at CHCs because a national policy advocating VA-CHC collaboration has not emerged in an effective way. CSHJR 10 (HSS) would encourage such collaboration.

The APCA urges the VA system to utilize the CHC infrastructure across Alaska rather than duplicate services by establishing new VA clinics where CHCs already exist. CHCs are well-positioned to provide access to cost-effective, quality care for Alaska's veterans whether through a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) arrangement, a network arrangement, or individual arrangements with individual CHCs

Lastly, it is very important that Congress adequately fund VA health care so that veterans from every corner of Alaska have access – all veterans, those returning from the current conflict with pressing issues as well as those who served previously and have increasing health care needs as they age.

The Alaska Primary Care adamantly supports CSHJR 10 (HSS) *Veterans' Health Care* and appreciates the Alaska State Legislature working to promote health care access for veterans throughout the state by passing this important resolution in order to communicate this priority to the U.S. Congress.

Supporting health care for Alaska's veterans,

Shelley S. Hughes
Government Affairs Director

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Alaska Commission on Aging

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 110693
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0693
PHONE: (907) 465-3250
FAX: (907) 465-1398

February 23, 2009

The Honorable Carl Gatto
House Military and Veterans' Affairs
Alaska State Capitol, Room 108
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Subject: Support for HJR 10

Dear Chair Gatto:


The Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA) encourages support for HJR 10 sponsored by Representative Guttenberg, Representative Kawasaki, Representative Salmon, Representative Kerttula, Representative Gruenberg, and Representative Cissna that encourages the United States Congress to improve health care and access for veterans. ACoA supports this resolution and its intent for Congress to provide sufficient, timely, and stable funding for veterans' health programs and to improve service delivery.

Health care is a key benefit of the services provided to persons who served in the armed forces. The number of veterans returning from military duty, in addition to veterans who are aging, is increasing along with the associated health care expenses. Although Alaska has the highest per capita population of veterans in the nation, our state remains as one of three states in the nation without a veterans' hospital that provides acute care inpatient services.

Moreover, Alaskan veterans come from all areas of the state. Veteran clinic facilities are located only in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Kenai. If a veteran lives outside of these areas and his/her medical condition is not 51% or more service-related, that individual is responsible for paying their own travel expenses. The Commission on Aging supports the Resolution's recommendation of a special "Heroes Health Card" to provide veterans access to health care in communities where they live, including those without veteran clinic facilities, by coordinating care provided by local medical providers and community health care facilities with care provided by military doctors and medical facilities.

ACoA supports HJR 10 and believes that veterans who served our country deserve decent health care. It is our responsibility and obligation to provide quality and accessible health care for veterans who joined the armed forces to serve and protect our nation. Please feel free to contact Denise Daniello, ACoA's executive director (465-4879), should you have any questions regarding our position. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sharon Howerton-Clark
Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging

Sincerely,

Denise Daniello,
ACoA Executive Director

Cc: Representative Harris
Representative Olson
Representative Buch

Representative Lynn
Representative Ramras
Representative Kawasaki

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 110608
431 N. Franklin Street Suite 200
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0608
PHONE: (907) 465-8920
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TOLL FREE: (888) 464-8920

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
and ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

March 6, 2009

Representative David Guttenberg
Alaska State Capitol, Room 418
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Support for CSHJR 10

Representative Guttenberg:

The Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the Alaska Mental Health Board appreciate your recognition of our nation's responsibility to our returning veterans and military service members. We support CSHJR 10 calling for a comprehensive response to our service members' health care needs, including the behavioral health needs of veterans and returning service members.

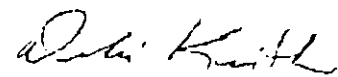
We support expanded cooperation between the Veteran's Administration and Alaska's community health care providers to increase access for returning veterans with service-connected disabilities. Many veterans are returning to rural communities. The most effective and efficient way for them to access needed health care is through community mental health centers, substance abuse treatment centers, community health centers, and tribal health organizations. By expanding partnerships between the Veteran's Administration and local health care providers, we can insure that veterans with service-connected disabilities receive the health care they need as close to home as possible.

We appreciate your advocacy on behalf of our military service members and look forward to continuing work with you on this issue.

Sincerely,



Lonnie Walters, Chair
ABADA



Debi Keith, Chair
AMHB



brain injury
network

Jill Hodges
Alaska Brain Injury Network
3745 Community Park Loop #140
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
March 6, 2009

Representative David Guttenberg
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Guttenberg:

Thank you for your continued concern for returning service members in Alaska, as well as traumatic brain injury research. The Alaska Brain Injury Network supports HJR 10 – Veterans Health Care.

The Alaska Brain Injury Network is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 whose mission is to educate, plan, coordinate, and advocate for a comprehensive service delivery system for survivors of traumatic brain injury and their families.

ABIN supports the need for traumatic brain injury research; yet also requests the committees take into consideration equal access to rehabilitation and ongoing support programs for all Alaskans with cognitive disabilities.

Recent studies show at least 20% of service members will return from war with a traumatic brain injury. Additionally, there are 800 Alaskans each year hospitalized for more than 24 hours with a moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (Alaska Trauma Registry). There is an estimated 3000 Alaskans that visit the Emergency Department each year (CDC). Falls, motor vehicle crashes, assault, ATV/Snowmachine and bicycle crashes are the leading causes of traumatic brain injury in Alaska. The Alaska Brain Injury Network, "10 Year Plan for TBI in Alaska" highlights the many recommendations needed to provide information and referral, case management, acute and post-acute rehabilitation, educational supports, vocational supports, and long-term care to all Alaskans with brain injuries. (http://www.alaskabraininjury.org/documents_akbrain_10%20Year%20TBI%20Plan.pdf)

It is important to understand brain injury affects Civilians and Military Members alike. The health care issue is a matter of access, as well as availability of services locally and payment for those serves. Currently the Alaska VA Health Systems and the Department of Defense, 3rd Medical Unit are developing TBI clinics, polytrauma clinics and brain injury rehabilitation and ongoing support services which will benefit both active duty and veterans; however these programs are being built with little coordination among the state and community providers. At the same time Alaska community providers are planning the development of brain injury residential programs because currently there are civilians who are not receiving the care they need to recover and or

best learn to live with their cognitive disability. Alaska does not have the workforce to operate three separate brain injury service delivery systems (including the Tribal system).

ABIN Activities Promoting Coordination among Military, State, Tribal, and Community

ABIN has been meeting with military partners since October 2007 for the purposes of determining the impact of returning service members with brain injuries and the impact it will have on state and community providers and resources. Participants have included 3rd medical unit, Elmendorf, TBI Clinic; Alaska VA Health Systems Polytrauma and Neuropsychology program; National Guard; Service and Family Assistance Center-Warrior Transition Battalion; Marines; Vet Center representatives; and Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership. We have learned that we can share outreach and awareness resources, but with program planning and implementation there has been little collaboration.

Potential Challenges

It is important to recognize how service members with brain injury may have challenges without the proper services and supports and are at risk for additional brain injuries. Highest rates of brain injury in civilians are among rural Alaskans and Alaska Natives. Many national guardsmen/women live in rural Alaska. A risk factor for a brain injury is history of brain injury; i.e. A national guardsperson is in an IED blast in Afghanistan. He/she returns to Alaska and may have challenges with balance, memory, attention, etc. He is riding his snowmachine and crashes, no helmet or maybe even with a helmet, he sustains an additional brain injury. There is potential for an influx of brain injuries in the next 5-20 years; a coordinated TBI prevention program and service delivery system would benefit all Alaskans.

Recommendations

The leadership and collaboration among State Government, Tribal Systems, Military and Veterans, and Community Providers is key to developing appropriate, timely, and coordinated brain injury services in Alaska.

If we do not have the essential brain injury awareness and treatment in Alaska

- Alaskans are at risk for bankruptcy, homelessness, divorce, or institutional care.
- This impacts State and local behavioral health, corrections, and educational systems greatly.

The Alaska Brain Injury Network encourages coordination in planning and implementation of brain injury programs in-state, as well as a state funding source to support the payment of brain injury rehabilitation and long-term care for both military and civilians.

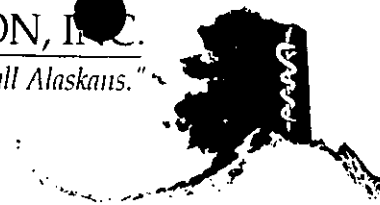
The Alaska Brain Injury Network supports HJR 10-Veterans Health Care. We also support collaboration efforts in the planning and implementation of the services that are needed in both rural and urban Alaska to support veterans and civilians.

Sincerely,

Jill Hodges

ALASKA PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION, INC.

"... Uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



Honorable Betty Davis, Senate HSS Chair
Honorable Joe Paskvan, Senate HSS Vice-Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Health & Social Services Committee
Juneau, Alaska 99801

April 3, 2009

Re: Support of CSHJR 10 (HSS) *Veterans' Health Care*

Dear Senator Davis, Senator Paskvan and Members of the Senate Health & Social Services Committee:

The Alaska Primary Care Association (APCA) works to promote primary care access for all Alaskans and is strongly in support of CSHJR 10 (HSS) *Veterans' Health Care*. Many of the veterans in Alaska reside in outlying areas where they are unable to access VA health care facilities. Veterans need and deserve high quality health care that is readily accessible.

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The APCA urges the VA system to utilize the CHC infrastructure across Alaska rather than duplicate services by establishing new VA clinics where CHCs already exist. CHCs are well-positioned to provide access to cost-effective, quality care for Alaska's veterans whether through a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) arrangement, a network arrangement, or individual arrangements with individual CHCs

Lastly, it is very important that Congress adequately fund VA health care so that veterans from every corner of Alaska have access – all veterans, those returning from the current conflict with pressing issues as well as those who served previously and have increasing health care needs as they age.

The Alaska Primary Care adamantly supports CSHJR 10 (HSS) *Veterans' Health Care* and appreciates the Alaska State Legislature working to promote health care access for veterans throughout the state by passing this important resolution in order to communicate this priority to the U.S. Congress.

Supporting health care for Alaska's veterans,

Shelley S. Hughes
Government Affairs Director