

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

2088

HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES, 1999 - 2000

239

SB

88

SFIN

FILE

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/26/99

FURTHER: 4/23/99
22

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 4/23/99

Finance Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 88

"An Act relating to licensure of dietitians and nutritionists; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS SB 88 (FIN)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s) forthcoming
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Finance CS
- further referral to the _____

- Senate Bill:**
- same title
 - new title
- House Bill:**
- same title
 - technical title
 - new: SCR# _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓	<i>[Signature]</i>		✓	
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓	<i>[Signature]</i>	✓		
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓	<i>[Signature]</i>	X		
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i>					
Co-Chair: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓	Co-Chair:			
Co-Chair: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓	Co-Chair:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department _____ Date _____ Zero _____ Fiscal _____

forthcoming			
F/N			

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department _____ Date _____ Zero _____ Fiscal _____

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

FISCAL NOTE

4/22/99
BILL NO. CSSB 88 (L&C)

**STATE OF ALASKA
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected Commerce & Econ Dev.
 Title An Act relating to licensure of dietitians and BRU Occupational Licensi
nutritionists; and providing for an effective date. Component Occupational Licensing
 Sponsor Senator Donley
 Requester Senate Labor and Commerce Component Serial No. 2360

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Personal Services	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Supplies	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	31.0	0.0	31.0	0.0	31.0	0.0
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time					
Part-time					
Temporary					

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

CSSB 88 (L&C) creates licensing of dietitians and nutritionists by the Department of Commerce and Economic Development. The division of occupational licensing anticipates existing staff will perform the licensing and investigative functions; however, like all licensing programs, time spent on this program will be based on positive timekeeping. The personal services costs reflected in this fiscal note are estimates of time that will be required to implement this new program. All costs will be covered by licensing fees. The estimated costs are explained on the attached page.

Prepared by Jennifer Strickler, Administrative Manager
 Division Occupational Licensing
 Approved by Commissioner Deborah B. Sedwick
 Agency Commerce & Economic Development

Phone 465-2144
 Date/Time 3/26/99 4:02 PM
 Date 3/30/99

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 88 (L&C)

ANALYSIS: (Continued)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FISCAL NOTE CALCULATIONS FOR CSSB 88 (L&C)

PERSONAL SERVICES **\$8.5**

Provides 2.5 months of an Occupational Licensing Examiner I position, Range 12, \$8.5.

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES **\$6.0**

Funding provides approximately 30 hours of AG legal time for regulations, license appeals, and discipline, \$3.0; and, printing, postage, communications, and advertising costs, \$3.0. Any examination fees are anticipated to be paid by the applicant directly to the examining agency.

SUPPLIES **\$1.0**

To fund daily operating supplies of the program.

TOTAL: **\$15.5**

REVENUE & FUND SOURCE: Revenue will be generated by licensing fees sufficient to cover program costs. Approximately 100 licensees are expected to seek licensure and renew licenses biennially. Licensing fees must cover direct costs plus approximately \$100 per licensee for division/departments overhead for the two-year period. Based on 100 licensees, licensing fees are estimated to be \$410.00 for the first biennium, and adjusted to actual costs based on positive timekeeping for the first renewal.

1-LS0409AM
Lauterbach
4/8/99

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 88()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): SENATOR DONLEY

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to licensure of dietitians and nutritionists; and providing for an
2 effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * Section 1. AS 08 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

5 **Chapter 38. Dietitians and Nutritionists.**

6 **Sec. 08.38.010. License required.** (a) An individual may not, unless licensed
7 as a dietitian or nutritionist by the department, use the title "dietitian," "licensed
8 dietitian," "nutritionist," "licensed nutritionist," or an occupational title using the word
9 "dietitian" or "nutritionist."

10 (b) The only penalty that may be imposed on an individual who engages in
11 conduct that violates (a) of this section is a fine of not more than \$1,000 under a
12 citation issued under AS 08.01.102 - 08.01.104.

13 (c) An individual who obtains or attempts to obtain a dietitian or nutritionist
14 license by dishonest or fraudulent means or who forges, counterfeits, or fraudulently

1 alters a dietitian or nutritionist license, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000
2 under a citation issued by the department. For a citation under this subsection, the
3 department shall use the citation procedures applicable to citations for unlicensed
4 practice under AS 08.01.102 - 08.01.104, and an individual who receives a citation
5 under this subsection is subject to the same requirements as an individual who receives
6 a citation under AS 08.01.102 - 08.01.104.

7 **Sec. 08.38.020. Dietitian licensure.** The department shall issue a dietitian
8 license to an individual who pays the required fee, applies on a form provided by the
9 department, and submits evidence satisfactory to the department of being certified as
10 a Registered Dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

11 **Sec. 08.38.030. Nutritionist licensure.** The department shall issue a
12 nutritionist license to an individual who pays the required fee, applies on a form
13 provided by the department, and submits evidence satisfactory to the department that
14 the individual either

15 (1) has qualified as a diplomate of the American Board of Nutrition or
16 as a Certified Nutrition Specialist with the Certification Board for Nutrition Specialists;
17 or

18 (2) meets the following qualifications:

19 (A) has received a master's or doctoral degree from an
20 accredited college or university with a major in human nutrition, public health
21 nutrition, clinical nutrition, nutrition education, community nutrition, or food
22 and nutrition; and

23 (B) has completed a documented work experience in human
24 nutrition or human nutrition research of at least 900 hours.

25 **Sec. 08.38.040. Grounds for suspension, revocation, or refusal to issue a**
26 **license.** The department may refuse to issue a license or impose a disciplinary
27 sanction authorized under AS 08.01.075 on an individual licensed under this chapter
28 when the department finds that the license applicant or licensee, as applicable,

29 (1) secured or attempted to secure a license through deceit, fraud, or
30 intentional misrepresentation;

31 (2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation in the

1 course of providing professional services or engaging in professional activities;

2 (3) advertised professional services in a false or misleading manner;

3 (4) has been convicted of a felony or of another crime that affects the
4 licensee's ability to continue to practice competently and safely;

5 (5) failed to comply with this chapter, with a regulation adopted under
6 this chapter, or with an order of the department;

7 (6) continued dietetics or nutrition practice after becoming unfit due to

8 (A) professional incompetence;

9 (B) addiction or severe dependency on alcohol or a drug that
10 impairs the licensee's ability to practice safely;

11 (C) physical or mental disability; or

12 (7) engaged in lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery
13 of professional service to patients.

14 **Sec. 08.38.050. Licensure by credentials.** The department may issue a
15 license to an applicant who holds a current unrestricted license as a dietitian or
16 nutritionist in another state or political jurisdiction of the United States or Canada if,
17 in the judgment of the department, the standards for licensure in the other jurisdiction
18 are not less stringent than the requirements in this chapter.

19 **Sec. 08.38.080. Exemption.** The requirements of this chapter do not apply to

20 (1) an animal nutritionist whose activities are limited to the nutritional
21 care of animals; animal nutritionists may use the title "nutritionist" as long as they
22 provide nutrition services only to animals; or

23 (2) a person who is serving in the armed forces of the United States or
24 is an employee of the federal government whose job title includes the term "dietitian"
25 or "nutritionist."

26 **Sec. 08.38.090. Regulations.** The department may adopt regulations under
27 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) to implement this chapter.

28 **Sec. 08.38.100. Definitions.** In this chapter,

29 (1) "accredited college or university" means a college or university
30 accredited by the regional or national accrediting agencies recognized by the Council
31 on Post-Secondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education at the

1 time the degree was conferred;

2 (2) "Commission on Dietetic Registration" means the Commission on
3 Dietetic Registration of the American Dietetic Association that is a member of the
4 National Commission on Health Certifying Agencies, which establishes national
5 standards of competence for individuals participating in the health care delivery
6 system;

7 (3) "dietetics or nutrition practice" means the integration and
8 application of scientific principles of food, nutrition, biochemistry, physiology, food
9 management, and behavioral and social sciences to achieve and maintain human health
10 through the provision of nutrition care services.

11 * Sec. 2. AS 08.01.010 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

12 (36) regulation of dietitians and nutritionists under AS 08.38.

13 * Sec. 3. AS 08.02.010(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) An acupuncturist licensed under AS 08.06, an audiologist licensed under
15 AS 08.11, a person licensed in the state as a chiropractor under AS 08.20, a dentist
16 under AS 08.36, a dietitian or nutritionist licensed under AS 08.38, a marital and
17 family therapist licensed under AS 08.63, a medical practitioner or osteopath under
18 AS 08.64, a direct-entry midwife certified under AS 08.65, a registered nurse under
19 AS 08.68, an optometrist under AS 08.72, a licensed pharmacist under AS 08.80, a
20 physical therapist or occupational therapist licensed under AS 08.84, a psychologist
21 under AS 08.86, or a clinical social worker licensed under AS 08.95, shall use as
22 professional identification appropriate letters or a title after that person's name that
23 [WHICH] represents the [THAT] person's specific field of practice. The letters or title
24 shall appear on all signs, stationery, or other advertising in which the person offers or
25 displays personal professional services to the public. In addition, a person engaged in
26 the practice of medicine or osteopathy as defined in AS 08.64.380, or a person
27 engaged in any manner in the healing arts who diagnoses, treats, tests, or counsels
28 other persons in relation to human health or disease and uses the letters "M.D." or the
29 title "doctor" or "physician" or another title that tends to show that the person is
30 willing or qualified to diagnose, treat, test, or counsel another person, shall clarify the
31 letters or title by adding the appropriate specialist designation, if any, such as

- 1 "dermatologist", "radiologist", "audiologist", "naturopath", or the like.
- 2 * Sec. 4. Except as provided in sec. 5 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under
- 3 AS 01.10.070(c).
- 4 * Sec. 5. AS 08.38.010, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, takes effect January 1, 2000.



SENATOR DAVE DONLEY

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SPONSOR STATEMENT

FOR

CSSB 88 ()

"An Act relating to licensure of dietitians and Nutritionists"

The Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 88 codifies professional title licensure of dietitians and nutritionists. Senate Bill 88 increases public access to the services of dietitians and nutritionists, helps to ensure the quality of such services, and protects consumers.

Senate Bill 88 represents sound public policy because it protects Alaskans from the potential harm that could be caused by untrained individuals. It accomplishes this by allowing Alaskans to differentiate between individuals who are qualified nutritionists and dietitians and those who are not. Also, with the advent of managed care and HMO's, it is necessary to make sure that the work of dietitians and nutritionists will be performed by experts in that field. There is legislation pending in Congress, which includes reimbursement for nutrition services within the Medicare Program, but only to those recognized by the state as nutrition professionals.

Senate Bill 88 contains provisions which ensure that individuals with nutrition practice experience and bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degrees from accredited schools may continue to work in Alaska. There are over 120 registered dietitians and nutritionists that live throughout Alaska. They work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics, school nutrition programs and with athletic programs. In hospitals and clinics they are part of the health care team (physicians, nurses and therapists) providing education in diabetes, heart disease, kidney failure, digestive disorders, eating disorders, high risk pregnancies, AIDS and cancer treatments, to name just a few.

The licensing of dietitians and nutritionists enables the public to identify individuals who are qualified by education, experience and examination to provide nutrition care services. Recognition defines the dietetics and nutrition practice which includes the integration and application of the principles derived from the sciences of nutrition, biochemistry, food physiology, management, and behavioral and social sciences to achieve and maintain the health of the citizens of Alaska through the provision of nutrition care services.

January-May: STATE CAPITOL • JUNEAU, AK • 99801-1182 • (907) 465-3892 • FAX: (907) 465-6595
June-December: 716 W. 4TH AVE. • STE. 430 • ANCHORAGE, AK • 99501 • (907) 269-0234 • FAX: (907) 269-0238

Vice-Chair, Senate Finance Committee • Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee •
MEMBER: Senate Judiciary Committee • Senate Labor & Commerce Committee • Legislative Council

Page 2
Senate Bill 88
Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 88 corrects the current situation where any person can call themselves a "nutritionist" or "dietitian" without even one day of formal education or experience. This can endanger the consumer with harmful, expensive or even dangerous advice and unproven therapies. Senate Bill 88 would reduce this danger to the public, through the licensing of dietitians and nutritionists.

Senate Bill 88 does not establish a new board. The licensing program will be conducted by the Division of Occupational Licensing, and will have no cost to the state, since licensing fees from the dietitians and nutritionists will pay for all of the program's administrative costs. It is also important to note that Senate Bill 88 will in no way impact other professions practicing nutrition or health food retailers unless they refer to themselves as a nutritionist or dietitian without meeting the standards that this bill would codify.



SENATOR DAVE DONLEY
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS
SENATE BILL 88 (Version 1-LS0409\K)
"An Act relating to licensure of dietitians and nutritionists"

Section 1: Adds a new chapter to AS 08. The new chapter is Chapter 38 that is entitled *Dietitians and Nutritionists*.

The following are the new sections of Chapter 38:

Sec. 08.38.010. License Required (page 1)—This section stipulates that a person may not use the title of "dietitian," "licensed dietitian," "nutritionist," "licensed nutritionist," or an occupational title using the word "dietitian" or "nutritionist".

Also, covered by this section are the penalties for meeting the stipulations of this section.

Sec. 08.38.020. Dietitian Licensure (page 2)—This section stipulates that the department shall issue a dietitian license to individuals completing the requisite criteria.

Sec. 08.38.030. Nutritionist Licensure (page 2)—This section stipulates that the department shall issue a nutritionist license to individuals completing and meeting the requisite criteria.

Sec. 08.38.040. Grounds for suspension, revocation, or refusal to issue a license (page 2)—This section allows the department, after a hearing to impose a disciplinary sanction or refuse to issue a license to an individual licensed under this chapter if they commit one of the listed offenses.

Sec. 08.38.050. Licensure by credentials (page 3)—The department may issue a license to an individual it determines as having sufficient credentials from another state.

Vice-Chair, Senate Finance Committee • Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee • Co-Chair, Anchorage Caucus
MEMBER: Senate Judiciary Committee • Senate Labor & Commerce Committee • Legislative Council

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Page 2
Sectional Analysis
Senate Bill 88

Sec. 08.38.080. Exemptions (page 3)—This section allows exemptions to the requirements of this chapter. The exemptions include: an animal nutritionist or a person serving in the armed services or who is a federal employee whose job title includes the term “dietitian” or “nutritionist”.

Sec. 08.38.100. Definitions (page 3)—This section sets out the relevant definitions to this chapter.

Section 2: (page 4)—This section adds conforming language to AS 08.01.010 to include regulation of dietitians and nutritionists to the applicability of Title 08 Business and Professions.

Section 3: (page 4)—This section adds conforming language to AS 08.02.010(a) Professional designation requirements.

Sections 4 & 5: (page 5)—These sections set out the effective dates of this Act.

Evidence on the Cost Effectiveness of Medical Nutrition Therapy

Findings both from randomized controlled clinical trials and from case studies show that medical nutrition therapy can save health care dollars and improve outcomes when provided to patients with diseases or injuries that place them at high risk of malnutrition -- being inadequately nourished. Almost 17 million patients each year are treated for illnesses or injuries that stem from or place them at risk of malnutrition. Whether in hospitals, long-term care institutions, or scattered throughout the community, medical professionals recognize that medical nutrition therapy is a key factor in improving outcomes and speeding recovery for at least 40 percent of hospital patients in the U.S. who are malnourished based on clinical nutrition evaluations (Roubenoff, Roubenoff, Preto & Balke, "Malnutrition among hospitalized patients: A problem of physician awareness," *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 1987).

An internal analysis of nearly 2,400 case studies submitted by ADA members shows that on average more than \$8,000 per patient can be saved with the intervention of medical nutrition therapy. Case studies show that, for diseases and conditions in which medical nutrition therapy is appropriate, the average annual or one-time savings per case include:

- For cancer, \$10,535 savings per case because specialized nutrition therapy enhances effectiveness of chemotherapy and radiation therapy;
- for heart disease, \$9,134 savings per case because medical nutrition therapy reduces the need for drugs and other artery-clearing procedures and/or surgery;
- for type I diabetes (insulin-dependent), \$9,049 savings per case because diabetic complications that result in hospitalization are reduced;
- for type II diabetes (non insulin-dependent), \$1,994 savings per case because medical nutrition therapy reduces or eliminates the need for insulin or oral agents;
- for kidney disease, \$18,467 savings per case by postponing the need for dialysis;
- for high cholesterol, \$2,709 savings per case by reducing the need for drugs;
- for hypertension, \$4,075 savings per case by reducing drug use and preventing complications such as stroke; and
- for a variety of other conditions -- such as burns and surgery -- requiring tube or intravenous feedings, \$7,051 savings per case by transitioning the patient to less invasive and less expensive nutrient sources.

A survey of 2,337 patient records at 19 hospitals indicates that early nutritional interventions and regular clinical nutrition services reduce hospital stays for malnourished and at-risk patients. The reduced hospital days translate into \$8,200 per bed per year average cost savings according to *Cutting Hospital Costs with Clinical Nutrition Services*, a new report by the Nutritional Care Management Institute (NCMI) of Tucker, Georgia.

A report in the July 1995 issue of *The American Journal of Medicine* highlights a study which found that the use of a diabetes team, led by an endocrinologist working with a nurse diabetes educator and dietitian, resulted in a 56 percent reduction in length of hospital stays among patients hospitalized with a primary diagnosis of diabetes compared with patients treated by an internist alone. Currently, hospital care of diabetic patients costs an estimated \$65 billion a year. The potential 5-day reduction in hospitalization found by this study translates into billions of dollars per year in potential health care savings.



Valley Medical Care

3220 Hospital Drive • Suite 100 • Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: (907) 586-2434 • Fax: (907) 586-2446

Sarah A. Isto, M.D.
Bob Urata, M.D.
Ellen Farley, M.D.
Sharon Fisher, M.D.
Lindy Jones, M.D.
Priscilla Valentine, M.D.
Anya Maier, M.D.
Justine Emerson, F.N.P.
Margaret Durand, F.N.P.

April 5, 1999

Senator David Donley
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88. I am a family physician working at Valley Medical Care here in Juneau. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians both here in Juneau and during my years of training in New York State and find their services critical as part of patient health care, including diabetes (both in pregnant woman and in non-pregnant persons), hypertension, hyperlipidemia, obesity and coronary artery disease.

Although doctors are being educated in nutritional topics more than before, we do not have the time to give the nutrition education that the patient needs and value the services provided by registered dietitians. However, I do not want to refer my patients for that dietary teaching to a person who may not be properly educated themselves and would need to rely on a licensure system to check on the qualifications of each person wanting to be licensed as a dietitian.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. I would be happy to answer any questions you have on this topic and can be reached at 586-2434.

Sincerely,

Priscilla H. Valentine MD
Priscilla H. Valentine, M.D.
Family Physician

PHV/lld



**March 15, 1999
Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508-State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182**

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donely:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of food and nutrition. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians in the following way: Many of our state registered dietitians help our State Food Service Association by conducting food and nutrition workshops at our Annual State Food Service Association Conference held once a year and also at our State Spring Conferences. We have found them to be very helpful in helping our food service employees meet the nutritional needs of our children.

The main reason I support licensure is it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 907-225-3570.

Sincerely,

Marie Cook

**Marie Cook, Food Service Supervisor
Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District and
President of the Alaska Food Service Association**

Les Harpel, L.P.T.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in identifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Harpel', enclosed within a large, loopy circular scribble.

Les Harpel, L.P.T.

Ernest J. Meinhardt, M.D.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in identifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,



Ernest J. Meinhardt, M.D.

Michael L. Hansen, P.A.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

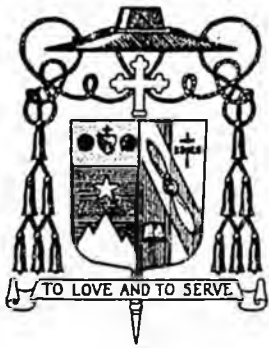
I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in identifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Hansen, P.A.



Bishop of Fairbanks

1316 Peger Road • Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

(907) 474-0753

March 22, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 88.

As bishop of the Diocese of Fairbanks, I have had numerous opportunities to work with registered dietitians and/or nutritionists. This occurs both in consultation with regard to personnel under my direction as well as in my own case, since I am a diabetic (Type II).

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907) 474-9540.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Kaniecki, S.J.

Bishop of Fairbanks

Linda Christensen, RN
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in indentifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

Linda Christensen, RN

Linda Christensen, RN

Terrie Lyons, L.P.N.
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

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Sincerely,

Terrie Lyons L.P.N.
Terrie Lyons, L.P.N.

March 16, 1998

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508- State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

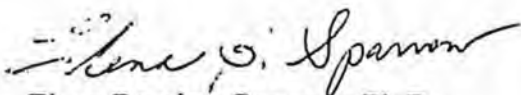
Dear Senator Donley,

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88. More than 120 registered dietitians and nutritionists live and work throughout the state of Alaska. They work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics, child nutrition programs, maternal and child health programs, sports medicine. They also teach college level courses and work as private consultants. I have had the opportunity to work with a registered dietitian when I was taking care of my mother who besides having heart disease was also a diabetic. The dietitian provided much needed professional advice on kinds and quantity of food which were nutritious and palatable for my mother. It was a very positive experience for both my mother and me.

The main reason I support state licensure for dietitians and nutritionists, is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that we are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. These qualified nutrition professionals who have the education, training and experience are an integral part of the health care professional team. I think all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for your supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907) 474-7699 during the day or at (907) 474-9284 during the evening.

Sincerely,



Elena Bautista Sparrow, Ph.D.
1127 Park Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Helen Spencer, Office Manager
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

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Sincerely,



Helen Spencer
Office Manager

Lynn Robertson, C.N.M.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

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Sincerely,



Lynn Robertson, C.N.M.

Kathy Timison, R.N.
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

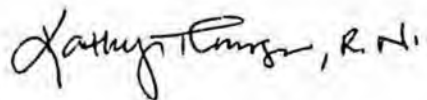
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Sincerely,



Kathy Timison, R.N.

Pamela Tucker, P.T.A.
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

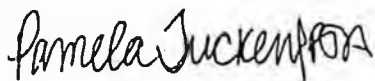
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The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in identifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,



Pamela Tucker, P.T.A.

Cindy Griffith, R.N.
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in indentifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindy L. Griffith, R.N.". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Cindy Griffith, R.N.



JUNEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT
CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

10014 CRAZY HORSE DRIVE • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-8529 • (907) 463-1700 • FAC SIMILE (907) 463-1768

March 24, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508--State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88. As Superintendent of the Juneau Schools I have had the opportunity to work with several nutritionists and support licensure. This legislation will assist Alaskans in identifying the experts in the field of food and nutrition, and help ensure that schools are provided with sound advice regarding nutrition issues.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 463-1700 (ext. 215).

Sincerely,

Mary Rubadeau
Superintendent

SOUTH PENINSULA HOSPITAL

4300 BARTLETT • HOMER, ALASKA 99603 • (907) 235-8101

March 15, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 -- State Capital
Juneau, Alaska 99801 - 1182

Re: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

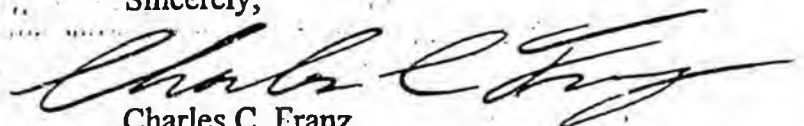
I'm writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88 regarding licensure for registered dietitians.

I have worked the past 30 years in a variety of health care positions. I have been a hospital administrator in Alaska since 1993. Throughout my career I have had the opportunity to work with many registered dietitians in hospitals around the nation. They have managed the hospital's dietary service and provided clinical dietary counseling and services to both physicians and patients. I have always found registered dietitians to be knowledgeable, conscientious and competent in providing accurate and scientifically based information to patients.

The primary reason I support licensure for dietitians in Alaska is that it will help all Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. Currently, everyone seems to think they are experts in nutrition regardless of education or experience. Licensure will help to assure that the people in Alaska are provided with sound nutritional advice and medically appropriate nutrition therapy by individuals who have met a baseline competency standard. I also feel all health-care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the state. Licensure applies to virtually all other health-care providers in our state and should be extended to dietitians as well.

Thank you very much for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please contact me at 235-0326 if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Franz
Chief Executive Officer

Annette Simmons, M.A.
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of medicine and have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians. Our medical clinic employs a Registered Dietitian to provide nutrition counseling to our patients. We view this as a valuable link in total patient care and improves the prognosis and outcome in many instances. Registered Dietitians are also a valuable resource to provide current, accurate information in the area of nutrition and help to separate fact from fiction.

The main reason I support licensure for Dietitians and Nutritionists is that it will assist Alaskans in identifying experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure the general public is provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

Annette Simmons, M.A.

Annette Simmons, M.A.

Jan Guy, P.A.
Independence Park Medical Center
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 23, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

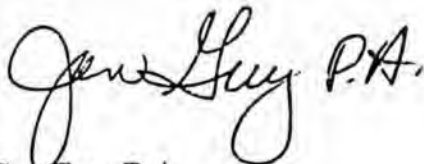
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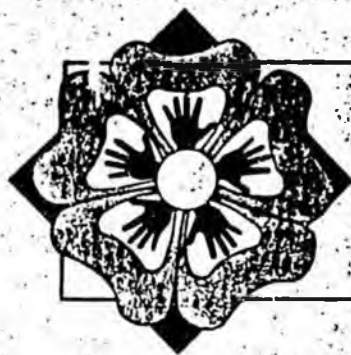
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan Guy P.A." with a long, sweeping underline.

Jan Guy, P.A.



F ♦ N ♦ A

Fairbanks Native Association

March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508-State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

We rely on the nutritionist comments for our breakfast, lunch & snack menus to make sure that we have enough of the dietary foods allow for the children here at Head Start.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 907-45604989 ext. 28.

Sincerely,

Brenda Krupa
Director

March 17, 1998

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508- State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley,

We the undersigned are writing to let you know we support Senate Bill 88. More than 120 registered dietitians and nutritionists live and work throughout the state of Alaska. They work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics, child nutrition programs, maternal and child health programs, sports medicine. They also teach college level courses and work as private consultants. They provide medical nutrition therapy to patients with ailments including diabetes, heart disease, kidney failure, digestive and eating disorders, high risk pregnancies, AIDS, strokes, and cancer.

The main reason we support state licensure for dietitians and nutritionists, is that it will help us Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that we get sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy from qualified nutrition professionals who have the formal education, proper training and experience. These dietitians and nutritionists are an integral part of the health care professional team. We believe that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

Printed Name	Signature	Address
John N. Alden	<i>John N. Alden</i>	1117 Galena St Fairbanks AK 99709
John YARIE	<i>John Yarie</i>	P.O. Box 81266 Fairbanks AK 99708
DAVID VERBYLA	<i>David Verbyla</i>	PO BOX 750101 FAIRBANKS AK 99705
John D. Fox, JR	<i>John D. Fox, Jr</i>	1520 Scenic Loop Fairbanks AK 99709
Carol E Lewis	<i>Carol E Lewis</i>	Box 81711 Fbks 99708
Reger W. Pearson	<i>Reger W. Pearson</i>	Box 1354, Kenai AK 99601
Janice T. Hanscom	<i>Janice T. Hanscom</i>	P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, AK 99707
Timothy K. Gustaf	<i>Timothy K. Gustaf</i>	853 Smallwood Tr Fairbanks AK 99712
Fredric M. Husby	<i>Fredric M. Husby</i>	1342 View Pointe Dr. FBKS 99709
Charles W. Knight	<i>Charles W. Knight</i>	4913 Princeton Dr. Fairbanks 99709
LOLA OLIVER	<i>Lola Oliver</i>	P.O. Box 8049 FBKS AK 99708
Glenn Juday	<i>Glenn Patrick Juday</i>	4837 Palo Verde Ave Fairbanks 99709
ROY ERICKSON	<i>Roy Erickson</i>	POB 82475 FBKS AK 99708
ANDREW W. BALSER	<i>Andrew W. Balsler</i>	P.O. Box 84391, FBKS, AK 99708

March 17, 1998

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508- State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley,

We the undersigned are writing to let you know we support Senate Bill 88. More than 120 registered dietitians and nutritionists live and work throughout the state of Alaska. They work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics, child nutrition programs, maternal and child health programs, sports medicine. They also teach college level courses and work as private consultants. They provide medical nutrition therapy to patients with ailments including diabetes, heart disease, kidney failure, digestive and eating disorders, high risk pregnancies, AIDS, strokes, and cancer.

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Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

Printed Name	Signature	Address	
Inez Balke	Inez Balke	4236 Birch Lane	AK 99709
Mary Lou Mathison	Mary Lou Mathison	1126 IVV Dr. Fairbanks	AK 99709
Gottfried Brennan	Gottfried Brennan	1241 Gregory St Fairbanks	AK 99709
Normand Lepin	Normand Lepin	2890 N. Koenig Ave Fairbanks	AK 99709
Maria Teresa Boulat	Maria Teresa	1316 Pagan Rd	AK 99709
MAGDALEN M. MITCHELL	Magdalen M. Mitchell	1715 Roosevelt Fairbanks	AK 99709
MARY E. KRENLE	Mary E. Krenle	413 Dun Kelt Fairbanks	AK 99701
Marganna L. Rottman	Marganna L. Rottman	1036 West 21st Fairbanks	AK 99701
Josefina Wooding	Josefina Wooding	4064 Birch Lane	AK 99709

Patricia Cue, R.D.
President, Alaska Dietetic Association
3982 Mullikin St.
Homer, AK 99603

Senator Dave Donley
Room 508
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

March 17, 1999

Dear Senator Donley:

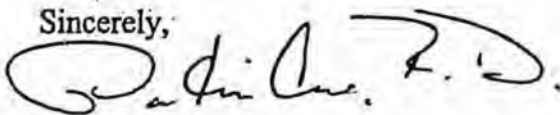
I am writing in support of Senate Bill 88 regarding licensure for dietitians and nutritionists in the State of Alaska. I have been a registered dietitian for eleven years. For eight of those years, I have lived and worked in the State of Alaska. I previously worked with the Yup'ik Eskimos in Bethel and am now employed with South Peninsula Hospital in Homer.

During the past eleven years, I have been providing valuable nutrition education and medical nutrition therapy to a variety of people and groups. I consulted with the Yukon Kuskokwim Native Corporation in the development of a Senior Meals Program in Hooper Bay. I developed a weight loss class in Homer and have counseled numerous people with diabetes, cancer and heart disease. The work that I perform should be recognized by the State of Alaska through professional licensing.

There are several important reasons why registered dietitians and nutritionists achieve licensure. I have personally observed patients in the hospital taking nutritional supplements that have no scientific basis for improving their health. Someone outside the profession sold them a product that was expensive and of no nutritional value. People within the State of Alaska should be protected from misinformation regarding nutrition. Licensing of registered dietitians and nutritionists will assist the public with accessing valid nutrition information from qualified professionals.

Thank you for your time and support for this particularly important issue.

Sincerely,



Patricia Cue, R.D.
President, Alaska Dietetic Association

Charles E. Fields, P.A.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

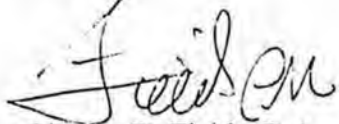
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Sincerely,



Charles E. Fields, P.A.

James N. Bertelson, M.D.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James N. Bertelson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

James N. Bertelson, M.D.

Kathryn L. Less O.T.R./L.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

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Sincerely,



Kathryn L. Less O.T.R./L.

Ronald E. Christensen, M.D.
Independence Park Medical Services
9500 Independence Drive, Suite 900
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 522-1341

March 21, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

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Sincerely,



Ronald E. Christensen, M.D.

From: John Wray <jwray@hisea.org>

To: 'lobbyak@alaska.net' <lobbyak@alaska.net>

Date: Monday, January 18, 1999 11:35 AM

Hello Mark -First off, I better apologize for the length of this monologue.

I wanted to pass on to you as few thoughts I had about the Dietitians & Nutritionists licensing bill.

They are mine alone, but I feel are creditable arguments to consider on why there should be licensure and to counter any points from the opposition.

In each of the states the passed licensure and/or attempted to pass licensure (including the 1995 effort here in Alaska), the argument made by the Health Food industry was that Dietitians were trying to create a monopoly in the job market for nutrition information. A close examination of Sec. 08.38.080. Exemptions clearly counters this argument. 13 exemptions, specific in nature, speak to the fact that if this bill becomes law - it is "business as usual" for the health food industry in Alaska and everyone else for that matter. But see exemption #8:

Exemption #8 an employees of food stores, health food operations, food supplement outlets can

 distribute information as long as they don't hold
themselves out as nutritionists
 or dietitians

But I don't see this bill as an effort to interfere with others. Purely - I see this bill as an effort to save the jobs of 120 people within the state of Alaska who have chosen to make Nutrition their career and who have chosen to live in Alaska.

Health Care is changing. Some years ago "Health Reform" was the big push in Washington and at the state level. While that specific term is no longer heard nowadays, make no mistake about - health care in America is being "reformed". This is happening via the insurance companies and by Federal programs like Medicare and Medicaid. We call it "Managed Care". It is varied and shows up differently in each region of the country. But, in short, it attempts to put severe fiscal limits on the health care machine (and rightfully so). So the situation is created where 3rd party payors (insurance companies) and Fiscal Intermediaries (who represent Medicare to the health providers) are saying, in effect - we will reimburse you "x" amount for "x" service. Plus we will only provide reimbursement to those specific providers who that individual State recognizes as the expert in that specific field. Or in other words - who is licensed within that state as the nutrition professional. Without licensure, dietitians run the risk to being left out of the reimbursement wheel, thus, they run the risk of not being employed.

1/18/99

-These are people with at the least baccalaureate degrees. Many with masters, some with doctoral degrees. They have completed internships and passed a registration exam. They are required to maintain a minimum of 75 continuing education hours every 5 years. If you look into the requirements of the Nursing profession, you will see that the education and testing structure is almost exactly the same.

Dietitians don't want to put health food stores out of business. They don't want a monopoly. As it is this day, within the health care field, we already have a "monopoly" - Just like Nurses have a "monopoly" within their specific field of health care. We simply want to save out jobs and our career.

Might this information be helpful to Sen. Donley? also, I am FAXing to you the 1995 Fiscal Note from the first attempt at licensure. thanks - John

From: John Wray <jwray@hisea.org>

To: 'lobbyak@alaska.net' <lobbyak@alaska.net>

Date: Friday, February 12, 1999 3:00 PM

Mark - a couple of things to pass on. After lunch this day I met with Larriane Derr, Executive Director of the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association. I explained our licensure bill and answered her questions. then asked if her group would pen a letter of support. She stated that she didn't see it being a problem, but wanted to run the topic passed her groups Legislative committee which mets in two weeks. then she would get a letter of support out. I will follow-up to her with a copy of the final bill when it is available.

during the meeting, she passed on a piece of information that maybe of interest. There is a workgroup in state called the Alaska Health Improvement Project. They are granted funded and tasked with improving the community health efforts to all the citizens in the four target communities - Kenai, Sitka, Fairbanks and Kotzebue. Two very active members of this project are Rep. Fred Dyson (HESS co-chair) and Rep. Gary Davis (Kenai). Might this prove helpful???

Regarding that change in language to the bill that I gave a copy to Sen Donley yesterday. I'm afraid I mistakenly deleted that file that had the exact language. But the just of the change was as follows:
starting on page 2

Sec 08.38.020. Dietitian licensure. the department shall issue a dietitian license to an individual who applies on a form provided by the department and submits evidence satisfactory of being a "Registered Dietitian" as defined by the Commission on dietetic registration of the American Dietetic Association of Chicago, Ill.

Finally, regarding that bullet points that the Senator wants. I will owrk on those this week-end and e-mail you as soon as I have them and/or I can wait until you fly back down. Your call -
any comments - input? - Later, John

March 10th 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to make you aware that I any many professionals like me support Senate bill 88.

I am a patient educator R.N. with upward of 30 years experience in the nursing field and thus in working with registered dietitians. I have worked with them in acute care settings such as hospitals and in ambulatory care i.e. Health centers. I am also in several professional organizations with them. I depend on them on at least a weekly basis to help me in the assessment or therapy of a patient. The physicians depend on them on a daily basis. In our clinic they have a constant schedule of clients that are referred to them from our physicians or myself. Their participation in many committees is sought because of the valuable information they possess. They teach classes and take part in many community lectures such as Diabetes, Cancer, and Lung Associations. They offer continuing education to staff RNs they work with the WIC programs, schools and preschools. In short the medical and health related agencies couldn't get along with out them.

The main reason I support the bill is to maintain a high quality in the field and help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of nutrition. Please support the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

You may contact me if you have questions or need clarification on anything I mentioned.

Sincerely,

Judi A. Flory

Judi Flory R.N. Patient Education
Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701

March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508-State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

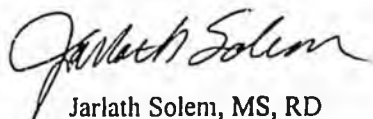
Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Dietetics and feel Licensure will help Alaskans identify the experts in the area of food and nutrition. Licensure will help ensure that Alaskans are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907) 562-2281 during the day Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,



Jarlath Solem, MS, RD
Clinical Dietitian
3473 Newcomb Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

22/413/R

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508-State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

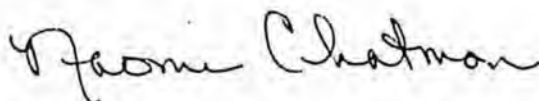
I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in hospital food service management. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians for many years. In our facility, the registered dietitians provide medical nutrition therapy for our patients. Whether a diabetic in need of education about how to feed themselves to optimize blood sugar control or providing nutrition care for an ICU patient unable to take nourishment for themselves, the positive impact of these practitioners is seen on a daily basis.

I support licensure so that Alaskans will have help to identify the experts in the field of nutrition. It will help to ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Further, I feel that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the state.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 264-1153.

Sincerely,



Naomi Chatman, Manager Dietary Department
Alaska Regional Hospital

17/335/10

March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801 - 1182

Dear Senator Donely:

I am writing you in support of Senate Bill 88 (State licensure for dietitians and nutritionists).

Since 1985, I have worked as a public health educator in Alaska and have had the pleasure of working closely with several registered dietitians. Together we have developed puppet shows to teach children about healthy foods and have taught low-fat/high fiber cooking classes using Native foods. Additionally, we've labeled low fat/high fiber foods in village grocery stores, and created health fair displays and activities on diet-related health risks (to name just a few of our collaborative efforts). Moreover, all of our combined efforts were warmly received in the communities we served.

The reason I support licensure is that I know, in addition to the dedicated and hard-working registered dietitians in Alaska, there are other people calling themselves "nutritionists" or "diet-consultants" but who have little or no education in this profession. Why do they masquerade as nutrition experts? Nutrition-related products and services are a lucrative business in health and diet-conscious America. If the State of Alaska requires licensing for all dietitians and nutritionists, the average Alaskan will be less likely to receive poor, and even harmful, nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy.

Lastly, I would like to thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's efforts to achieve licensure.

Sincerely yours,



Deanne Bolsvert
Public Health Educator

P. O. BOX 6612 SITKA, AK 99835
PHONE: (907) 747-3501 • FAX: (907) 966-8799

March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donely

Re: Senate Bill No. 88

Dear Mr. Donely:

I am writing as a member of the National Association of Social Workers, Alaska Chapter to ask you to support the Alaska Dietetic Association effort to obtain state licensure for dietitians and nutritionists.

I know as a social worker that licensure is important to help ensure the public has access to professional expertise. I understand the licensure for dietitians is an important issue nationwide, and 38 other states already have laws in place that regulate nutrition professionals. Dietitians and nutritionists are part of the health care team and need to be recognized as such.

I work at Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital/ SEARHC in Sitka. I work with three dietitians/nutritionists who provide very needed consultations to the patients, families and staff.

I support licensure that will help ensure Alaskans are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 907-966-8413.

Sincerely,



Nancy Jo Bleier, ACSW, LCSW
Director, Social Services

FAX - COVER SHEET

SOUTH EAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

MT. EDGE CUMBE HOSPITAL

222 TONGASS DRIVE

SITKA, ALASKA 99835

PHONE NO. (907) 966-2411

FAX NO. (907) 966-8300

TO: SENATOR DAVE DONELY	FAX: (907) 465 6595
ATTENTION:	DATE: 3/10/99
FROM: TERRY CAUANAUGH PT	TOTAL # OF PAGES 2
SUBJECT: SENATE BILL 88 SUPPORT	

MESSAGE:

*If you have not received all of the above mentioned pages, please advise by calling or FAXing the numbers above.
Thank you.*

3/9/99

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508--State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

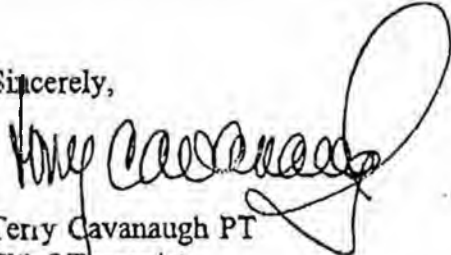
I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Physical Therapy. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians in our hospital both in acute medical care and in programs encouraging long term behavioral change.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State. Additionally I think Alaska should offer the standard set in most other states in this country.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907) 966-8312.

Sincerely,



Terry Cavanaugh PT
Chief Therapist
SEARHC Mt Edgecumbe Hospital
Sitka, AK 99835

FAX - COVER SHEET

SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

MT. EDGE CUMBE HOSPITAL

222 TONGASS DRIVE

SITKA, ALASKA 99835

PHONE NO. (907) 966-2411

FAX NO. (907) 966-8300

TO:	Senator Dave Donley	FAX:	465-6595
ATTENTION:		DATE:	3/2/99
FROM:	Jenevieve Nerus, LPT	TOTAL # OF PAGES	2
SUBJECT:	Senate Bill 88		

MESSAGE:

Attached

If you have not received all of the above mentioned pages, please advise by calling or FAXing the numbers above.
Thank you.

March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508- State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

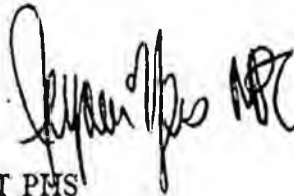
Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 88.

I am a Licensed Physical Therapist and have had the opportunity to work with registered nutritionists on multiple occasions. I work in a hospital setting and have come to believe they are a critical part of interdisciplinary patient care. I feel that it is important for Alaskans to be able to identify and access experts in nutrition. Licensure would help ensure that Alaskans receive sound and accountable advice. The vast majority of members in our multidisciplinary health care teams are licensed professionals, I feel that Nutritionists should be acknowledged in the same way by State Legislation.

I would appreciate your support for the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. I can be reached at 966-8576 for questions.

Thank You,



LT Jenevieve Neros, LPT PMS

Southcentral Foundation

March 8, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 – State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

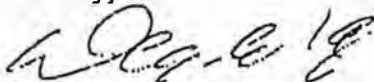
I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I have had the opportunity to work with dietitians and nutritionists as resources for nutrition consultation and education to our clients. The integration of accurate and appropriate nutritional information is critical in providing health care that incorporates preventive services as well as curative. They meet these needs by providing excellent care to our prenatal patients and clients with diabetes as well as leading a family centered weight management program.

I support licensure for dietitians and nutritionists so that Alaskans can identify the experts in the field of foods and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutritional advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,



Douglas Eby, MD, MPH
Vice President
Medical Services



Southcentral Foundation

March 8, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

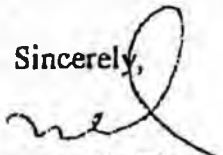
I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

As an administrator in health services, I have had the opportunity to work with nutritionists as they provide nutrition consultation and education to our clients. They provide accurate and appropriate information.

I support licensure for dietitians and nutritionists so that Alaskans can identify the experts in the field of foods and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,



Michelle Tierney, MPH
Health Systems Administrator




Senator Dave Donley
Room 508
Alaska Senate
State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

March 9, 1999

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing this letter of support for SB 88. I feel that the Alaska Dietetic Association's position of wanting to have dietitians and nutritionists licensed in the State of Alaska is perfectly reasonable. The role of these professionals in the field of Home Health Care in which I work will only become more and more important as the federal government and insurance payers demand timely and cost efficient outcomes for their clients. I certainly want to know that the health care practitioners to whom we make referrals are truly qualified professionals in their respective fields. Our clients and the public deserve the very best.

Sincerely,



Jan Young, RN
Executive Director

3/10/99

Senator Dave Donley
Room 508 - State Capitol
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Dooley,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 88.

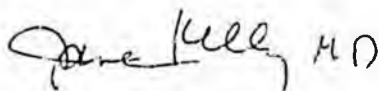
I am the Alaska Area Diabetes Control Officer for Indian Health Service. I see patients with diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease every day in my clinical practice. Sound nutritional evaluation and counseling are the cornerstones of care for these patients.

I am very concerned that the nutrition education these patients need is often given by non-dietitians of varying skill and knowledge levels. I work side by side with Registered Dietitians in my clinical practice, and find their work invaluable to my clinical care.

I support licensure in that it will help patients, and other medical professionals, identify and access the experts in nutrition. I cannot overemphasize the importance of healthy lifestyle nutritional guidance from a professional trained in the field.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's efforts to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached in my office at 729-1126.

Sincerely,



Jane Kelly, MD
Alaska Area Diabetes Control Officer
ANMC-Diabetes
4315 Diplomacy Drive
Anchorage AK 99508



March 10, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801 -1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am in support of Senate Bill 88.

I have been in the Nutrition & Food Service industry for over 25 years and have worked with registered dietitians and nutritionists. They have been very supportive in making sure that our patients as well as clients are correctly instructed on their nutritional needs and are able to give good sound advice.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help ensure Alaskans to identify the professionals in the area of nutrition. If we as a state want to provide good sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy then the only answer to Senate Bill 88 is YES.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's efforts to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael Pier
General Manager
Sodexo Marriott
1001 East Benson Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99508-4100
(907) 729-2680

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508-State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

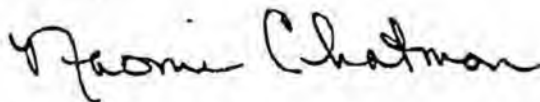
I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in hospital food service management. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians for many years. In our facility, the registered dietitians provide medical nutrition therapy for our patients. Whether a diabetic in need of education about how to feed themselves to optimize blood sugar control or providing nutrition care for an ICU patient unable to take nourishment for themselves, the positive impact of these practitioners is seen on a daily basis.

I support licensure so that Alaskans will have help to identify the experts in the field of nutrition. It will help to ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Further, I feel that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the state.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 264-1153.

Sincerely,



Naomi Chatman, Manager Dietary Department
Alaska Regional Hospital

COPY

Bartlett Regional Hospital

3260 Hospital Drive • Juneau, Alaska 99801 • Telephone 907-586-2611

3/9/99

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 – State Capital
Juneau, AL. 99801-1182

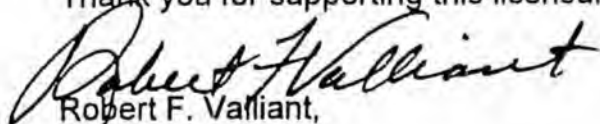
Dear Senator Donley:

I wish to voice my support for SB 88. I believe that the dietitian is a valuable member of the health care team at Bartlett Regional Hospital (as at every hospital in Alaska). For many years dietitians have worked side-by-side with physicians, nurses and other allied health professionals. They have provided expertise and teaching to patients, in the field of nutrition that should be recognized by the State of Alaska.

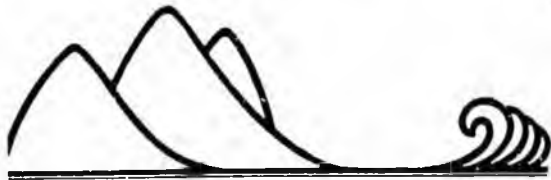
Secondly, legal recognition of dietitians holds the potential for added reimbursement dollars being made available to hospitals if current Federal legislation become law.

Additionally, the therapy provided by dietitians is cost effective in terms of lowering health care costs. If patients with chronic diseases comply with the teachings of the dietitians, studies indicate these individuals have less in-patient visits and shorter length of stays.

Thank you for supporting this licensure effort.



Robert F. Valliant,
Administrator
Bartlett Regional Hospital
3260 Hospital Dr.
Juneau, AK. 99801



Valley Medical Care

3220 Hospital Drive • Suite 100 • Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: (907) 586-2434 • Fax: (907) 586-2446

Sarah A. Isto, M.D.
Bob Urata, M.D.
Ellen Farley, M.D.
Sharon Fisher, M.D.
Lindy Jones, M.D.
Priscilla Valentine, M.D.
Anya Maier, M.D.
Justine Emerson, F.N.P.
Margaret Durand, F.N.P.

March 3, 1999

Senator Dave Donnelly
Alaska Senate, Room 508
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donnelly:

This is a letter in support of the nutritional professionals who are pursuing state licensure for dietitians and nutritionists. I support this request because I think it will bring up the level of current patient care in Alaska, especially for those dietitians and nutritionists who work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics and in other areas.

I believe that they are experts in their field and this would prevent those who do not meet that standard and are not trained in this specialty from falsely practicing this service.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Urata, M.D.

BU/ldd



Rick Mystrom,
Mayor

Municipality of Anchorage

Department of Health and Human Services

825 "L" Street

P.O. Box 196650 Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650

<http://www.ci.anchorage.ak.us>



March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 – State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 88 on the licensure of dietitians and nutritionists.

I have worked in public health and pediatrics for over 20 years. I rely frequently on the wisdom of dietitians in counseling parents on proper nutrition for infants and children. Their expertise is especially valuable for children and teens with diabetes and other metabolic conditions requiring special nutritional support.

I support licensure because it will help Alaskans identify the trained experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they receive competent and appropriate nutritional advice and therapy.

Sincerely,

Bruce P. Chandler, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Officer

cc: Mary Good, Director, DHHS



CENTRAL COUNCIL
tingit and haida indian tribes of alaska
ANDREW P. HOPE BUILDING
320 West Willoughby Avenue • Suite 300
Juneau, Alaska 99801-9983

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

HEAD START EVEN START ALASKA NATIVE HOME BASED PRESCHOOL EDUCATION CHILD Care Food Program

March 10, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 -- State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know that I support Senate Bill 88. I manage the Tlingit and Haida Head Start program and this year we have used the services of a registered dietician (or nutritionist) and it has made a huge contribution to the quality of our Head Start program.

Our nutritionist has helped us meet Head Start Performance Standards by completing the following work:

1. Consultation for all Head Start children requiring dietary assistance (overweight, underweight, anemic children, and children with other nutrition-related problems).
2. A nutrition service plan, which outlines what Head Start will do to provide nutritional support services to families and their young children.
3. Policies and procedures regarding child health screenings and our food service program.
4. Development of training curriculum and a parent education cookbook to extend learning to Head Start parents.

These are only some of the contributions our nutritionist has made to our program.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition -- so they receive qualified and effective services. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's efforts to achieve licensure. Please contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 463-7150.

Sincerely,


Nila M. Rinehart
Program Manager



Tongass Regional Eye Clinic

Robert A. Breffellh, M.D. • Gordon R. Preecs, M.D. • Diplomates American Board of Ophthalmology
3268 Hospital Drive, Suite A • Juneau, Alaska 99801-7808
(907) 586-2700 • In Alaska: 1-800-478-3700 • FAX: (907) 586-2917 • Cellular: 321-2029

March 9, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Room 508 Alaska Senate
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

This letter is offered in support of Senate Bill 88, a bill recommending licensure of dietitians and nutritionists in the State of Alaska.

In my medical practice, the role of nutrition is becoming more and more important as we recognize its value, which was, in the past, very underrated.

As nutritional therapy becomes more recognized and more accepted in the future, it will be to the residents of the State of Alaska and your constituents' best interest to have the best trained people in this field available. I think at this time, licensure is one of the first steps towards that goal.

Again, I recommend this bill without reservation and encourage your committee to forward it to the full Senate and recommend its passage. I thank you in advance for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Breffellh, M.D.

MOORE CLINIC, Inc.

John W. Totten, M.D., F.R.C.S.
Deborah Sogge-Kermani, M.D.
Jean S. Glossa, M.D.
Matt Sogge-Kermani, P.A.

814 Halibut Pt. Rd. - P.O. Box 279
Sitka, Alaska 99835-0279
Telephone: (907) 747-3446
Fax: (907) 747-7995

March 10, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley,

We are writing to let you know that we support Senate Bill 88.

We are physicians at the Moore Clinic in Sitka. We have had the opportunity to work with registered dieticians on a regular basis, and find this especially helpful for patients with diabetes.

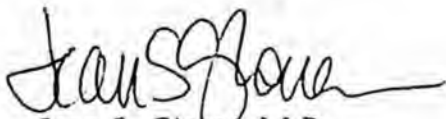
Licensure will help Alaskans to identify the experts in the field of nutrition, which will help ensure they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. We also feel that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact us at the Moore Clinic, at the telephone number above, if you have any questions.


Sincerely,



John W. Totten, M.D., F.R.C.S.



Jean S. Glossa, M.D.



Deborah Sogge-Kermani, M.D.



HOSPICE of the TANANA VALLEY

P.O. Box 82770, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99708

(907) 474-0311

FAX (907) 452-7643

March 12, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley,

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

As someone who works in the field of Hospice Care, I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians who assist terminally ill patients and loved ones. These dedicated professionals are expert at helping caregivers learn ways to prepare palatable food and maximize nutrition for critically ill family members.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will assist Alaskans in identifying the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 474-0311.

Sincerely,

Tina Kocsis
Director of Hospice Services



4315 Diplomacy Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
(907) 563-2662

March 4, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I am the administrator of the Alaska Native Medical Center as well as a physician in the area of Pediatrics. I consult with the hospital's Registered Dietitians on a regular basis for their expertise in nutrition assessment and education. The Dietitians participate in clinical rounds and interact with all medical disciplines to provide quality patient care. I consider them an essential part of the hospital's health care team.

Licensure of Registered Dietitians will enable all Alaskan people to identify a qualified expert in the field of nutrition. Licensure will ensure Alaskans that they will be provided with correct and qualified information regarding medical nutrition therapy.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure for Dietitians.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at the above address or (907) 729-1997.

Sincerely,

Richard Mandsager, MD
Administrator



DDV
4315 Diplomacy Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
(907) 563-2662

March 5, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donely:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Nursing and as the Chief Nurse Executive I have had the opportunity to work with several good registered dietitians.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907) 729-1987.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lestenkof, RN
ANTHC Chief Nurse Executive

LD

Fred W. Hoefler RPh
4315 Diplomacy Dr
Anchorage, AK 99508

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 – State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley,

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88

I am a pharmacist at the Alaska Native Medical Center and consult with dieticians on a daily basis. They provide an invaluable service providing assessment of patients who are nutritionally compromised, identifying potential nutrient/drug problems, and dietary teaching. Dieticians have also been especially helpful in helping pharmacists manage total parenteral nutrition patients. We consider them an essential part of our health care team.

The main reason I support state licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel that all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Feel free to contact me during the week at the above address or (907) 729-2133. You may also contact me during the evenings at (907) 245-1913 or at shoefler@alaska.net

Sincerely,



Fred W. Hoefler RPh
LCDR, USPHS
Senior Pharmacist II
Alaska Native Medical Center



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-8375

COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Division of Culinary Arts and Hospitality
Telephone: (907) 786-1487
Fax: (907) 786-1402

March 2, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

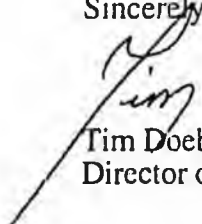
I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Culinary Arts and Nutrition. I have had the opportunity to work with Registered Dietitians in the following way. The University trains five dietetic Interns per year. Seventy-five percent of these interns stay in Alaska to work as Registered Dietitians.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 907-786-4728.

Sincerely,



Tim Doebler, CCE
Director of Culinary Arts and Hospitality, UAA

GOING PLACES

A JOURNEY OF CARING FOR ALASKA'S KIDS

Providence Alaska Medical Center
3200 Providence Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
March 8, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Nutrition Services WIC. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians in the following way:

I supervise the Dietitians in the WIC program at Providence Medical Center.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907) 261-4930.

Sincerely,



J. Lynn Copoulos
Supervisor, WIC Program



ALASKA STATE

HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME

ASSOCIATION

March 16, 1999

The Honorable Senator Donley
Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

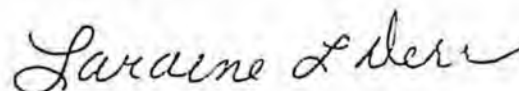
On March 14, 1999, the Labor and Commerce Committee will be hearing SB88 that licenses dietitians and nutritionists. The dietitians and nutritionists work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics, school lunch programs, maternal and child health programs, sports medicine, the University system and in private consulting.

On behalf of the Alaska Association of Hospitals and Nursing Homes, I am writing in support of SB88. As health care facilities look for persons to fill job vacancies in the area of dietetics and nutrition, it would be of assistance if one was assured that the person possessed a license and that the State certified they met the professional standards required. Whether a person has diabetes, heart disease, kidney failure, digestive disorders, eating disorders, high risk pregnancies, strokes, AIDS or cancer treatments, dietitians and nutritionists are a necessary part of the treatment. Licensing would identify qualified nutrition professionals that have the education, training and experience to provide that sound nutrition service. I would ask for your support of this bill.

While it's not the intent of the legislation to limit the practice of other allied health professionals, SB 88 would legally recognize dietitians and nutritionists as experts. It would give health care facilities assurance that they are hiring qualified persons.

Thank you for your consideration of our letter of support.

Sincerely yours,



Laraine L. Derr
President

George Y. Saimon, PT
828 Crossman Road
Fairbanks, AK 99712

March 14, 1999

Senator Dave Donely
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 – State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of physical therapy. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital in the PACE program, an outpatient cardiac rehabilitation program which combines the Medical Nutrition Therapy services of a registered dietitian with physical therapy. Since leaving the hospital, I have worked with registered dietitians in home health, outpatient, and community education settings, where I have seen the benefits of sound nutrition education empower many clients and improve their rehabilitation outcomes.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. In my opinion, registered dietitians have a level of academic and clinical education equal to that of other licensed health care providers in the State of Alaska. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank-you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (907)452-6488.

Sincerely,

George Y. Salmon MPT
George Y. Salmon, M.P.T.
Alaska Physical Therapy License No. 734



Alaska Association of Diabetes Educators

March 15, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Alaska Association of Diabetes Educators (AKADE) in support of Senate Bill 88.

As diabetes educators we have the opportunity to work closely with registered dietitians on a regular basis. In fact several of our members are registered dietitians. Registered dietitians play a major role in helping all people with diabetes to develop an individual meal plan for successful management of their diabetes. Successful diabetes management means reduction in complications and health care costs related to diabetes and improved quality of life for those living with diabetes.

The primary reason we support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that Alaskans, especially those whose quality of life depends on it are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. Senate Bill 88 will also help assure that all health care professionals are treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure.

Sincerely,

Melinda Tomazevic RN, CDE
Diabetes Nurse Specialist
Secretary, AKADE

March 12, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know we support Senate Bill 88.

We work in the field of medicine at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Center for Health and Counseling. We have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians (or nutritionists) in the following way:

We have a dietician who volunteers to come in and talk with our students on a monthly basis in regards to a healthy diet and nutrition.

The main reason we support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutritional advice and medical nutrition therapy. We also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact us if you have any question. We can be reached at the UAF Center for Health and Counseling, 907-474-7043.

Sincerely,

Melinda Evans, MD
Melinda Evans, M.D.
Beverly Parrott, P.A.-C *Beverly Parrott P.A.-C*
Alice Mural, A.N.P. *Alice Mural A.N.P.*
Debra Piedrafita, F.N.P. *Debra Piedrafita F.N.P.*



SOUTH EAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
3245 HOSPITAL DRIVE • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801 • (907) 463-4000

March 22, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Senate Bill #88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am a physician here in Juneau, and have been with the SEARHC clinic for over six years. I have the pleasure of working with registered nutritionists. Our on-staff nutritionist sees our patients on an individual basis; to do dietary counseling, as well as providing classes for groups on health and weight loss approaches.

I understand the question of licensure for nutritionists is up in the legislative body this season. I support this licensure process because it would help Alaskans identify experts in the field of nutrition. I think with the emphasis on nutrition and vitamins and health, it is a very important time to take heed that there will be non-professional, non-trained individuals who may take advantage of patients' desire to obtain information.

Please support Senate Bill #88.

Sincerely,

Maureen P. Longworth, MD
MPL:sh

c: *Joni Leet, nutritionist, SEARHC Clinic*

Transcribed but not signed



SOUTH EAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
3245 HOSPITAL DRIVE • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801 • (907) 463-4000

March 22, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am a Family Physician. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians in the following way: referring patients with health problems that are impacted by nutrition such as diabetes or chronic kidney failure.

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 463-4000.

Sincerely,

Mark Peterson, MD
Clinical Director



SITKA MEDICAL CENTER.

700 KATLIAN STREET, SUITE E • SITKA, ALASKA 99835 • (907) 747-5861
AFTER HOURS (907) 747-3241
FAX (907) 747-5415

ROBERT C. HUNTER, M.D.
INTERNAL MEDICINE
GERIATRICS
GENERAL PRACTICE

DONALD R. LEHMANN, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
FAMILY PRACTICE
SPORTS MEDICINE

DEBRA L. BRUSHAFER, M.D.
FAMILY PRACTICE

ROBERT J. KLEM, M.D.
FAMILY PRACTICE

C. TIEN-BAO CHAO, M.D.
GENERAL SURGERY

CARY S. KELLER, M.D., F.A.C.S.M.
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY
SPORTS MEDICINE

SHARON SMOTHERMAN, PA-C
GENERAL PRACTICE

March 10, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 - State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Family Practice. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dietitians on a consultant basis (on contract with my practice).

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at the above address.

Sincerely yours,

Donald R. Lehmann, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
Family Practice
Sports Medicine

DRL:bj



SITKA MEDICAL CENTER

700 KATLIAN STREET, SUITE E • SITKA, ALASKA 99835 • (907) 747-5861
AFTER HOURS (907) 747-3241
FAX (907) 747-5415

ROBERT C. HUNTER, M.D.
INTERNAL MEDICINE
GERIATRICS
GENERAL PRACTICE

DONALD R. LEHMANN, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
FAMILY PRACTICE
SPORTS MEDICINE

DEBRA L. BRUSHAFER, M.D.
FAMILY PRACTICE

ROBERT J. KLEM, M.D.
FAMILY PRACTICE

C. TIEN-BAO CHAO, M.D.
GENERAL SURGERY

CARY S. KELLER, M.D., F.A.C.S.M.
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY
SPORTS MEDICINE

SHARON SMOTHERMAN, PA-C
GENERAL PRACTICE

March 10, 1999

Senator Dave Donley
Alaska State Legislature
Room 508 – State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 88

Dear Senator Donley:

I am writing to let you know I support Senate Bill 88.

I work in the field of Internal Medicine. I have had the opportunity to work with registered dieticians on a consultant basis (on contract with my practice).

The main reason I support licensure is that it will help Alaskans identify the experts in the field of food and nutrition. This will help ensure that they are provided with sound nutrition advice and medical nutrition therapy. I also feel all health care professionals need to be treated in an equitable manner by the State.

Thank you for supporting the Alaska Dietetic Association's effort to achieve licensure. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at the above address.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Hunter, M.D.
Internal Medicine (Board Certified)
Geriatrics (Certificate of Added Qualification)

RCH:bj



Valley Medical Care

3220 Hospital Drive • Suite 100 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Phone: (907) 586-2434 • Fax: (907) 586-2446

Sarah A. Isto, M.D.
Bob Urata, M.D.
Ellen Farley, M.D.
Sharon Fisher, M.D.
Lindy Jones, M.D.
Priscilla Valentine, M.D.
Anya Maier, M.D.
Justine Emerson, F.N.P.
Margaret Durand, F.I.P.

March 3, 1999

Senator Dave Donnelly
Alaska Senate, Room 508
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Donnelly:

This is a letter in support of the nutritional professionals who are pursuing state licensure for dieticians and nutritionists. I support this request because I think it will bring up the level of current patient care in Alaska, especially for those dieticians and nutritionists who work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health clinics and in other areas.

I believe that they are experts in their field and this would prevent those who do not meet that standard and are not trained in this specialty from falsely practicing this service.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Urata, M.D.

BU/lud

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SIGN-IN

SB 88-DIETITIANS AND NUTRITIONISTS

NAME: JOHN WRAY Subject/Bill No: SB 88
 Co./Dept./Title: AK DIETETIC ASSOC Phone: 586-8491
 Address: 3250 HOSPITAL DR JEWELL Zip: 690801

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

NAME: LINDA WILD Subject/Bill No: SB 88
 Co./Dept./Title: _____ Phone: 586-2330
 Address: PO Box 80704 JEWELL Zip: 690802

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

NAME: Catherine Reardon Subject/Bill No: SB 88
 Co./Dept./Title: Commerce - OCC Phone: 465-2538
 Address: PO 110806 Jewell Zip: 690811

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

NAME: _____ Subject/Bill No: _____
 Co./Dept./Title: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Zip: _____

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

03/30/99
09:07:21

LEGISLATIVE TELECONFERENCE NETWORK SYSTEM
PARTICIPANT LIST (ALL PARTICIPANTS)
TCN:90474 SCHEDULED FOR:03/30/99 08:00 TO 11:00
PUBLIC HEARING SENATE FINANCE

LTN1150
BY:ANC
FOR:ANC

LOCATION: ANCHORAGE

SB 4	NANCI	JONES_____ANS ?S	DIRECTOR PFD	TESTIFY
SB 4	KAREN	CAMPBELL	VICTIMS	TESTIFY
SB 4	JANICE	LIENHART	VICTIMS FOR JUST	TESTIFY
SB 4	SARAH	SHORT	FAMILIES FIRST	TESTIFY
SB 4	CHARLOTTE	PHELPS_____ANS ?S		TESTIFY
SB 4	BLAIR	MCCUNE	AK PUBLIC DEFEND	OBSERVE
ALL ITEMS	DIANE	WENDLANDT (SB100)	AGO	TESTIFY
ALL ITEMS	BARBARA	BRINK_____ (SB100)	AK PUBLIC DEFEND	TESTIFY