



ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 11, 2021

Representative Zack Fields
House Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: ASHNHA Supports HB 132

Dear Representative Fields,

Thank you for introducing the “Alaska Apprenticeship Expansion Act” to build and expand apprenticeship programs for helping address workforce needs in Alaska and creating potential opportunities for increased funding from the federal government.

Workforce shortages are well documented in Alaska’s health care industry, and we believe your legislation is another tool for more effectively developing a pipeline of local talent to work in our hospitals and nursing homes.

At least two health care facilities currently participate in apprenticeship programs that fill a variety of in-demand positions, including sterile processing and radiology technicians. We support HB 132 and appreciate increased apprenticeship opportunities for Alaskans and health care employers.

Thank you for your partnership in working to solve the many health care challenges facing Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Jared C. Kosin, J.D., M.B.A.
President & CEO