



February 19, 2021

Senator Jesse Kiehl
Alaska Legislature
State Capitol Room 419
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: SB 65 "An Act relating to immunity for consulting physicians, podiatrists, osteopaths advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, dentists, optometrists and pharmacists."

Dear Senator Kiehl,

The Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association (ASHNHA) is a membership organization representing Alaska's hospitals, nursing homes, home health / hospice agencies, and other health care providers. ASHNHA is pleased to write this letter in support of SB 65 to limit liability for consulting health care providers.

ASHNHA recognizes the importance of "curbside consults" to support Alaska health care providers in making the best decisions for patients. Alaskan health care providers often seek a brief consult with practitioners with a higher level of expertise. Alaska's vast distances and lack of health care specialties, especially in rural areas, makes obtaining consults like this critical. Providing liability protection for these situations makes sense.

Feel free to contact me if you would like additional information from ASHNHA. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Jared C. Kosin, JD, MBA
President & CEO