

February 13, 2026

Representative Mina
State Capitol Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801
Representative.Genevieve.Mina@akleg.gov

RE: AHHA Supports House Bill 195

Dear Representative Mina,

For over 70 years, the Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association (AHHA) has served as a non-profit trade association representing Alaska's hospitals, nursing homes, and a growing number of healthcare partners across the continuum of care. AHHA members play an invaluable role, both as community providers and essential employers, in cities, towns, and villages across Alaska.

We write to express our strong support for HB 195, which authorizes pharmacists to provide patient care services—including prescribing and administering medications—within the scope of their education, training, and experience. We believe HB 195 is an important follow up for clarifying changes already made to statute in 2022.

In 2022, HB 145 established that a pharmacist may independently prescribe and administer a vaccine, related emergency medication, and an opioid overdose drug. It also added a new section (AS 08.80.337) that provides a pharmacist may independently provide patient care services for general health and wellness, disease prevention, and a condition that is minor and generally self-limiting.

When the Board of Pharmacy went to create regulations for these statutory changes, the Department of Law concluded that clarifying language was still needed in AS 08.80.337 for pharmacists to independently prescribe and administer a vaccine, related emergency medication, and an opioid overdoes drug—as well as—independently prescribe for patient care services related to general health and wellness, disease prevention, and a condition that is minor and generally self-limiting. AHHA formally supported HB 145 in 2022, and finds HB 195 to be an important, technical clean up that is appropriate to fully realize the intent of the legislation widely adopted in 2022.

We appreciate you bringing this legislation forward, and all the work to adopt reasonable safeguards and improvements to the bill. We urge the Legislature to expeditiously pass this legislation. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to advancing healthcare for Alaska.

Sincerely,



Jared C. Kosin, JD, MBA
President & CEO

Advancing Healthcare for Alaska

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