

March 26, 2025

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson
State Capitol Room 30
Juneau AK, 99801
Senator.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov

RE: AHHA Supports Senate Bill 41 – Mental Health Education

Dear Senator Gray-Jackson,

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.

AHHA supports SB 41 and the prioritization of mental health education in schools. Our work on the adolescent mental health continuum of care in Alaska highlighted the need for early intervention and integration of mental health education in schools.

Given the widespread mental health needs among adolescents in the state, we agree that it is important that young Alaskans develop tools and resilience to understand and support their mental health. Mental health is as important as all other aspects of health education, and we appreciate your work in solidifying it as an essential component of Alaska's K-12 curriculum.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to advancing healthcare for Alaska.

Sincerely,



Jared C. Kosin, JD, MBA
President & CEO