

President Update

AKAPA – August 2023



August Greetings!

As we begin the transition from summer to autumn, I hope this letter finds you still active with all the amazing Alaskan summertime activities available. During this time of year, I always find myself in awe of the lifestyle we get to enjoy in this great state. This can be a busy time! It can be difficult making it all fit into our schedules. The AKAPA would like to get on your calendar for some important PA activities as well.

Of course, SB115 has been on my mind this summer. I had the opportunity to meet with our bill sponsor, Senator Loki Tobin last month. She is an amazing advocate for access to quality care for Alaskans and has personal experience growing up in Nome with PAs for providers. I am even more excited to move forward in getting this bill passed for PAs and all Alaskans after meeting with her.

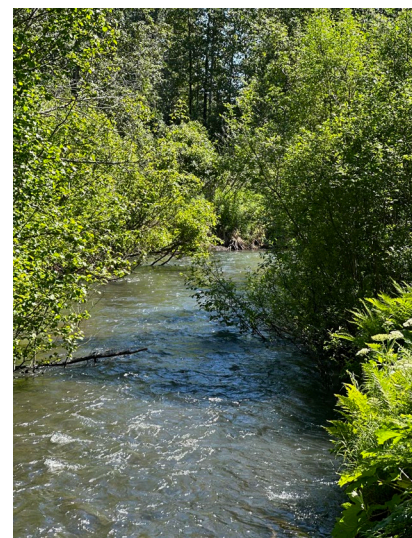
Hopefully you have all gotten the email for the [SB115 Town Hall](#) on August 23rd, 6-8pm at King Street Brewing Company. Please join us in person or virtually for an update of what the coming months will bring. We have also created a [SB115 survey](#) we hope you take. We will continually check in with you all through this process. This will allow us to best represent Alaskan PAs accurately. Please feel free to forward the email to other Alaskan PAs who may not be associated with AKAPA at this time. We welcome all feedback!

Thank you all again for continuing to make Alaskan PAs proud. Look forward to seeing you all at the Town Hall!

Jenny Fayette, AKAPA President



"It's the first day of autumn! A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings, and, best of all, leaping in leaves!" ~Winnie the Pooh



Reminders

Membership

Thank you for maintaining your membership and allowing AKAPA to continue to work for you. Please consider joining our board and/or a committee near and dear to your heart. If you find your life is just too busy these days, please consider donating financially so we can continue our efforts with legislation, CME, and keeping Alaskan PAs relevant. [Alaska Academy of PAs](#)

Save The Date - AKAPA Annual Conference

Make sure to register early and save the date! October 5-7th, 2023. We have some exciting speakers joining us this year. It is also always a great opportunity to network with other Alaskan PAs. We look forward to seeing you there! [Click here for more information.](#)



Components of SB115

SB115

Senate Bill 115 addresses two very important aspects of PA Modernization:

- ✓ Enabling PAs to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and experience.
- ✓ Establishing PAs as practitioners for direct reimbursement.

Future Issues to watch for movement:

- PA Licensure Compact
- PA Title Change

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

~Barack Obama



Share Your Story!

Do you have a “Story” of how current, outdated, regulation have impacted your practice or how SB 115 could improve your practice?

Arizona, Montana, Iowa, Arkansas, and Colorado all contribute the success in their modernized PA practice to reaching out to legislators and telling their PA’s individual “stories”. We make a difference by sharing Alaskan stories of how the state’s current regulations affect PA practice today, especially in more rural areas. Detailing how PA modernization will increase access to care for your patients helps legislators understand the positive impacts of passing SB115. [Submit your story here.](#)

Congratulations to MEDEX Anchorage Class 13!

August 18, 2023 will see 25 Alaskan PAs graduate from the UW/UAA local PA program. We look forward to seeing these highly qualified PAs integrate into Alaska’s health care team. Just another way PAs are continuing the high quality care of Alaskans, and improving access to care throughout the state!

