

Sponsor Statement for HB 91

Add Physician Assistant to State Medical Board

“An Act relating to the membership and quorum requirements of the State Medical Board.”

House Bill 91 is based on a request brought forward by the Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants. The Alaska State Medical Board supports House Bill 91. House Bill 91 adds one licensed physician assistant to the State Medical Board and changes the quorum for meetings, from four to five members.

Currently, there is no representation of physician assistant licensees to the Board even though consideration of physician assistant licensure, regulations and discipline are frequent topics. Physician Assistants are also an increasingly significant factor in providing medical care. Participation of a physician assistant would strengthen and support the State Medical Board and contribute to its decision-making process by providing valuable opinions representing a wider spectrum of medical practitioners in Alaska.