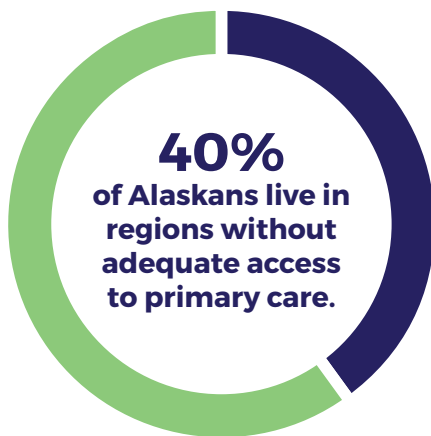


Support S.B. 115 to Expand Patient Access to Care



To expand access to all levels of medical care, Alaska must start with ensuring our healthcare workforce is fully supported and empowered. For physician assistants (PAs), that means updating our practice laws.

The Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants (AKAPA) asks for your support of SB 115.

What would SB 115 do?

SB 115 would modernize PA practice statutes to align legislative language with how PAs currently practice—not how they practiced in 1974 when the law was written.

Proposals in SB 115 include the following:

- **Maintain** PA commitment to practice medicine in collaboration with physicians and other members of the healthcare team.
- **Define** PA scope of practice in the statute, as PAs are competent to perform based on their education, training, and experience.
- **Require** collaborative plan for new PAs (<2000 hours) that is filed at the practice level.
- **Recognize** PAs as practitioners, responsible for the care they provide.
- **Prevent** insurance companies from imposing practice, education, or collaboration requirements on PAs that are inconsistent with or more restrictive than imposed in statute or regulations.

How would SB 115 help patients?

Updating laws will give medical teams and healthcare employers flexibility to deploy the PA workforce. It will also create a practice environment that is modernized, helping Alaska to recruit and retain more qualified healthcare providers for the state.

PAs are master educated clinicians who practice in every medical setting and specialty.

A 2023 survey from The Harris Poll found that more than two-thirds of U.S. adults have seen a PA, and 91% say the PA provided safe and effective healthcare.

To learn more about PAs and why we support SB 115, contact the AKAPA info@akapa.org.

