Chair Nosse and members of the committee,

I am writing in support of HB 2463,

As a member of the Washington County Behavioral Health Committee and a psychologist for many years, I am aware of how regulatory and data demands have become overwhelming for those providing service in the behavioral health field. They seem to increase in tandem with the severity of the problems, leaving less and less time to actually perform the work that needs to be done.

I look back with nostalgia. I started and ran a behavioral health center in a small Alaskan town and moved on to be the program administrator for Alaska's 25 mental health centers. This was before the internet. While there were obviously many challenges with providing and monitoring services, there was minimal demand for filling out long forms or providing constant reports, In addition, there were so few funding sources that grant applications and insurance reports were minimal. As an illustration, I enclose in this letter a copy of the majority of patient forms we had to fill out. They were NCR (no carbon required) forms, filled out by hand, mailed to a central location where they were key punched into a main frame computer, producing data that was used to define and shape the system. Filling out the intake and discharge form took only a few minutes, as did completing the daily tally of who was seen and what other services were performed. Yet, we were able to monitor the system fairly well.

As I talk to people running Behavioral Health programs now, they say that as much as half of their time is spent in administration, primarily paper work. Computers have given us power to report and monitor every part of what we do. However, as this demand for reporting proliferates, we have less and less time to spend on service.

In addition, the patchwork of programs responding to Behavioral Health needs leaves most of us confused. With too many doors, we end up with no easy way to find the right door to enter for services.

HB 2463 reflects both awareness of the problem and real compassion for the frustration that those on the front line are experiencing. Thank you for this. I strongly support its implementation.

Thank you for your attention and service,

Carol Greenough, Ph.D.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH	ADMISSION - DISCHARGE FORM
Parent or Guardian Addre	
Also known at	
Fallity Code Code year	Code Itinerant Clinie
DATE CAN HERE FOR	The second secon
EMPLOYMENT SHIT Offer employed employed employed	unemployed housewife of student vetired to work
EDUCATION Inighest grade completed) none Grade School and High School 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	
REPERRED BY Self Relatives Friends	Private Court School Other
PREVIOUS ADMISSIONS (indicate number)	
In this Other Cutpatians	Plaster Protection
	CRAMPUS VA Private Ins None
0-3,999 4,000-7,999 8,000-11,999 1	2,000-15,919 16,300-19,919 20,000+ Other
VETERAN VI	
MESENTING PROBLEM Viente Mentel Retardation	Alcohel Drug Life Crea
DIAGNOSIS ON ADMIISION	
DISCHARGE	
FINAL DIAGNOSIS Primer APA Code	CASE NO.
	8 9 10 11 12 11 14
	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
month day year	15 16 17 18 19
2016 (REV 4/75)	

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF BEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES DEVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENTAL DESABILITIES DESS-DMIL-CH5 23 (Rev. 2/10)				STAFF LOG								Facility Code			Haff	Haff Code			
1 .	AMEROMMENTS		CASE NO.		Date	v. 1	in le	APRIL 1	and a	Service	Hel	No.1	IN	NUMBE	AL JAG	LITCH	se il	CHARGE	
	stack before Kerpunch	9		4 15		203	1 22	13 24	26	28	30	31 32	33 34	35 36	37 38 3	29 40 4	1 4:	43 47	
	And in the same state states			:		1	П										1.1		
				+ +		- 1	++	+		-	++				+++	++	++		
101111					1		11	1				. 1				11	1.1		
					1	- 1		-		-		1.1						1.1.1.1.1.1.1	
		and the second second			:					-		1					-		
		11 6 6 10 m C			1							1					1.1		
				-		-	+	-	-	-	++	1	-	-	+++	++	++		
1.				1				1											
						- 1	++	1	-										
												1		1				-	
				:												11			
						-	+ +	-	-	-	++	-		-	+++	++	++		
10.000			1.1	:	:	- 1												1	
				-		-		-	1			1.1						10000	
1.000												18							
1000												1							
An Article Contractor			-	-		_		-	-	_				_					
			and the second	1 3		- 1			F							11	11	20	
						-	++	+	+	-				-		++	++		
			100	-	105				1										
			0		1			-		-		1							
		Mar and the state	1000		100													-	
								-	1.00			1							
				-	-	-	+ +	-	-	-	++	+		-	+++	++	++		
			1.1	1 2		1			100			1			111		11		
				-		0.1				-			10						
	5- L-				-	000													
Opened	PLACE	Direct Service		21 Occapational/Vocational The apy 22 Socialization 23 Day Time Cire					-	3	22 Information & Electrics 36 Staff Care Conferences/Review 41 Evaluation/Quality Assesses					Consultation Education Planning with Differ Agenting Any combinetion of an			
Follow-Up	B Hospital C School D Hame	01 Chemoth 02 Individua 03 Couple 1	I Therapy	35 Outreach Encounter 38 Informal Counciling & Support 45 Information & Referral						1	Administrative Activities					agency code other than "216" with a newton cod			
LIENT STATUS	ENT STATUS F Ohm Office 06 Group Thimpy (um colu					Support/Prevention/Stabilization Classes (san columns 41-42 to record number) Other Direct Services						15 Personari Related 16 Client Records 17 Miscellateous Piperwork					other than direct, client consultation, or search.		
Inputient.	H Dimerant Clinic	09 Placemen	1								- 3	20 Client-related Preparation							
Dutpatient Diagnostic	1 Other Owtade	27 Crisis Int 28 Intake S		Consultation Relating to Direct Service Recipients OS Introview with Siginfrant Other							1	21 Program-related Preparation 25 Meeting							
Partial Husp.		29 Recreational Throupy 10 Client-centered											19 Other: Non-direct/administrative						
Emergency		30 Play The		11 Pro 12 AU	gram Cost and Train	malaging	Plane		ith spen	iy code l			el to De sististrati						