



## **ALPHA Resolution 2024-02**

### **Supporting Sustainable Healthcare Workforce Development**

**WHEREAS**, Alaska presents unique challenges in access to healthcare services because of its vast size, isolated communities, and the amount of area that is considered medically underserved.

**WHEREAS**, 98% of Alaska’s land area and 98% of Alaska’s population are considered medically underserved.<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, from September 2021-March 2022, the state spent \$87 million to bring in over 400 out-of-state nurses, certified nurse assistants (CNA), and other patient care technicians to help meet demand.<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Area Health Education Centers are vital in the development and sustainability of health workforce development programming in rural and underserved areas.<sup>3</sup>

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ALPHA supports legislation and investment to increase support for healthcare workforce development programs.



**Fiscal Impact:** This resolution should have no fiscal impact on ALPHA.

**Public Health Impact:** This resolution would support policies to improve public health through increasing availability of health care workers.

**References:**

<sup>1</sup> Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health. *2021 Primary Care Needs Assessment*. State of Alaska. Web. 23 Feb. 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association. "Alaska Health Care Workforce Analysis." 2021. Web.

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<sup>3</sup> Jennifer Taylor, Gretchen Forsell, Elyse Perweiler, Mary Sienkiewicz, Longitudinal evaluation practices of health workforce development programs: An incremental approach to evaluability assessment, *Evaluation and Program Planning*, Volume 69, 2018, Pages 68-74, ISSN 0149-7189, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.evalprogplan.2018.04.007>.

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