

March 4, 2026

The Honorable Nick Begich
United States House of Representatives
153 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Begich,

I am writing to express my strong support for the FY27 Community Project Funding (CPF) request regarding the Petersburg Medical Center, Phase 3: Long Term Care (LTC) Center project.

For over a century, the Petersburg Medical Center has been a cornerstone of local healthcare. While the facility became a federally designated Critical Access Hospital in 2001, the core infrastructure dates back to 1955. PMC remains a vital lifeline for the region, serving permanent residents, seasonal fishing and cannery workers, and the visiting cruise ship industry. However, PMC's ability to provide essential care is threatened by an aging facility that can no longer keep pace with modern demands. This replacement is urgent; the Borough-owned facility currently faces failing systems and obsolete infrastructure.

Following the successful, on-time, and under-budget completion of Phases 1 and 2, the Borough's top priority for FY27 is Phase 3: the construction and build-out of the Long-Term Care (LTC) Center. Timely completion is paramount, as Petersburg lacks local alternatives for LTC residents. Any service disruption caused by a system failure would result in the distressing emergency displacement of residents from their home community.

Bartlett Regional Hospital fully endorses PMC's mission to build a facility equipped for the future. The CPF request is a critical catalyst to ensure this project moves forward without delay.

Thank you for your continued advocacy for this essential capital investment in Alaska.

Sincerely,



Joe Wanner
Chief Executive Officer