

February 23, 2026

The Honorable Nick Begich  
United States Representative for Alaska  
153 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Congressional Directed Spending Request – Petersburg Medical Center**

Dear Congressman Begich,

For over 70 years, the Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association (AHHA) has served as a non-profit trade association representing Alaska's hospitals, nursing homes, and a growing number of healthcare partners across the continuum of care. AHHA members play an invaluable role, both as community providers and essential employers, in cities, towns, and villages across Alaska.

We write today to express our support for the FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) request for the Replacement Petersburg Medical Center (PMC) project.

Petersburg Medical Center has been providing medical services to the community for over 100 years. The current hospital was originally built in 1955, expanded in 1984, and became a federally designated Critical Access Hospital in 2001. PMC is a vital part of the community, providing critical medical services to all residents of the region, as well as supporting seasonal fishing/cannery workers, and cruise ship passengers.

Petersburg Medical Center cannot continue to provide care to its community without help. Replacement of PMC is urgently needed due to failing systems and obsolete infrastructure in the Borough-owned facility. Both Phase 1: Site Development, and Phase 2: Construction and build-out/FF&E of the Wellness, Education, Resource Center (WERC), were completed on time and under budget. The Borough's highest priority for FY27 is Phase 3: Construction and build-out/FF&E of the Long-Term Care Center. Swift completion of this phase is critical, as Petersburg has no local alternative for their residents in Long Term Care (LTC). If services are disrupted by any potentially imminent system failure, current LTC residents would be forced to evacuate the community for emergency displacement.

AHHA strongly supports PMC's effort to build a new facility to meet community needs now and into the future. Thank you for considering this matter and your leadership on behalf of Alaska.

Sincerely,



Jared C. Kosin, JD, MBA  
President & CEO