Public Comments can be sent to jetta.whittaker@alaska.gov. Comments must be received by 5:00 pm on March 12, 2021.

**Draft Public Comment for Individual Distribution**

Dear Jetta Whittaker,

I am writing to submit a public comment about the proposed change to 7 AAC § 130.270 that would prohibit employment services from being provided in residential settings unless a recipient is operating a home-based business.

This proposed change would be harmful to Alaskans with disabilities for the following reasons:

* It will limit the employment opportunities of Alaskans with disabilities during a pandemic, many of whom are immunocompromised, who may be required to work from home at this time.
* It limits the employment options available for Alaskans with disabilities to traditional in person positions and ignores the changing nature of the workplace, as well as the individual employment goals of recipients who would benefit from more flexibility in employment.
* Alaskans with disabilities should enjoy all the same options in employment that are available to their non-disabled peers.
* Reasonable accommodations provided by an employer that may allow an individual to work from home are not an option if the individual is unable to receive necessary supported employment services to continue in their job.
* The concern of the State in preventing fraud or eliminating duplicate services is already covered by the annual reviews and updates in services that individuals receiving services must undergo.
* It is good policy to support Alaskans with disabilities in a diversity of employment options to encourage competitive employment and maximize their engagement in community life.

This proposed regulation change would affect me or my family by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I ask the State of Alaska to not make this this change to the supported employment services regulation.

Thank you,

[name]