

Heidi Hedberg
Commissioner

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Department of Health

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. Robert Lawrence named Alaska's Chief Medical Officer

April 29, 2024, ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Department of Health (DOH) welcomes Dr. Robert Lawrence, who has been named by Commissioner Heidi Hedberg as the state's next Chief Medical Officer (CMO).

"We are truly thrilled to add Dr. Lawrence's unique perspectives to the work we are accomplishing within the Department of Health," said Commissioner Hedberg. "His commitment to promoting the health, wellbeing and self-sufficiency of all Alaskans is widely recognized and deeply appreciated. As we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Anne Zink for her outstanding leadership over the past five years, we anticipate continued improvements in Alaska's healthcare systems with Dr. Lawrence at the helm."

Dr. Lawrence previously served as the CMO at the Department of Corrections and will bring a wealth of expertise to his new role, which he begins today.

"Of everything the great state of Alaska has to offer, people matter most," said Dr. Lawrence. "I am honored to join this team of dedicated servants who focus their efforts to elevate the health and independence of every person in Alaska."

Dr. Lawrence holds an M.D. from the University of Washington School of Medicine, an M.A. in Bioethics from Trinity International University, and a M.Ed. in Social Science Education from Harding University. He is board certified by the American Board of Family Medicine.

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