March 27, 2017

The Honorable Anna MacKinnon
Co-Chair
Alaska Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Lyman Hoffman
Co-Chairman
Alaska Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Sens. MacKinnon and Hoffman,

Alaska Oil & Gas Association (AOGA) is the professional trade association for the oil and gas industry, representing the majority of oil and gas exploration, production, refining and transportation companies in Alaska.

AOGA supports Senate Bill 34 (SB 34), implementing the federal REAL ID Act of 2005. Because of federal laws, Alaskans will soon need to either have a REAL ID compliant State drivers’ license or ID card or a federally issued passport or other acceptable federally issued ID to pass through Transportation Security Administration (TSA) checkpoints. SB 34 provides Alaskans a more affordable and easier option by allowing them a choice to either choose a REAL ID compliant Alaska Driver’s license at a local Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office versus going through the time and expense of obtaining a United States Passport or other federally issued ID.

The issue is very important for the oil and gas industry as almost all of Alaska’s current oil and gas production is on the North Slope, and almost every worker, utilizes air travel, passing through TSA checkpoints, to get to work. Passage of SB 34 gives workers another choice in getting the proper identification to travel to their jobs.

Thank you for your consideration, and we urge the adoption of SB 34.

Sincerely,

Kara Moriarty
President/CEO