



January 29, 2018

Senator Mia Costello  
State of Alaska  
Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Costello,

Senate Concurrent Resolution 10, "Proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation," introduced by Senator Mia Costello, is an essential piece of legislation that promotes the idea of innovation and how it can enhance the economy. Innovation is evolving expeditiously and is constantly improving our quality of life. From technological advances, to generating new concepts and processes, innovation starts with the smallest of ideas.

Proclaiming a year of innovation inspires sectors of any economy to invent, create, and to do more with less. In an economic recession, sparking innovation is crucial to creating a sustainable environment. By creating new, contemporary solutions to problems in a community, growth and success can occur and flourish, resulting in long-term development. Collaboration between the public and private sectors of the economy creates an innovation community that is fundamental to the sustainability of any state.

I strongly urge the passage of this resolution, "Proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation," without hesitation as it will improve the lives of all Alaskans at every level of the economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Robert B. Tucker'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Robert' being more prominent.

Robert B. Tucker  
CEO  
Innovation Resource Consulting Group  
Santa Barbara, California  
United States of America



## Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

**2016 - 2017  
PNWER Executive  
Committee\***

January 30, 2018

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Sen. Arnie Roblan  
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Colin Smith  
APEGBC  
Private Sector Co-Chair

Dan Kirschner  
Northwest Gas  
Association  
Private Sector Co-Chair

\*Partial listing

The Honorable Mia Costello  
Senator  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 504  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Costello,

On behalf of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER), I offer PNWER's strong support for "Proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation" legislation introduced in the Alaska State Senate (Senate Concurrent Resolution 10).

This proclamation will designate 2019 as the Year of Innovation in Alaska. PNWER believes the competitive landscape of the global economy, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application. The 2019 Year of Innovation will be an opportunity to address many challenges our region faces. The PNWER Innovation, Workforce, Economic Development working groups and the University Presidents' Roundtable have all identified innovation as a critical driver for economic development.

The Pacific Northwest region must channel the strengths of its many separate resources into a collaborative, comprehensive effort that maximizes the economic benefits of regional innovation. The Year of Innovation will foster regional collaboration, highlight innovation and cultivate entrepreneurship in the state. PNWER is supportive of the legislation and encourages the Alaska Legislature to proclaim 2019 as the Year of Innovation in Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Morrison  
Chief Executive Officer  
PNWER