



1100 West Ewing Street
Seattle, WA 98119

March 28, 2012

Honorable Gary Stevens
United States Senator
State Capitol Room 111
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Stevens:

I am writing you today to express my support for HB 118 – Research and Development Tax Credit. The effect of diversifying seafood resources, above all other efforts, has had the largest positive impact on value, job opportunities and opening new markets for Alaska seafood around the world.

Research and Development is one of the highest risk aspects of our business yet one area that has kept our business strong and growing through tough economic times. The opportunity to accelerate the development of new products and processes through a Public/Private partnership will continue to keep Alaska seafood competitive and gaining new consumers around the world.

An example of new technology that Ocean Beauty has been a part of is the use of microwave sterilization to develop shelf stable ready-to-eat meals. Ocean Beauty Seafoods is a founding member of the Microwave Consortium that includes Washington State University, U.S. Army-NATICK, Hormel, AmeriQual, General Mills, and Nestlé, among others. This group was formed in 2002 with the goal of commercializing a microwave process for the preparation of shelf stable meals. The US military has invested in this project with a goal of improving the eating quality of MRE's (meals ready to eat), as food quality has a direct impact on troop morale. We see the technology as a way to reduce energy costs when compared to traditional retorts to cook salmon and incorporate more "user friendly" packaging vs. canned product.

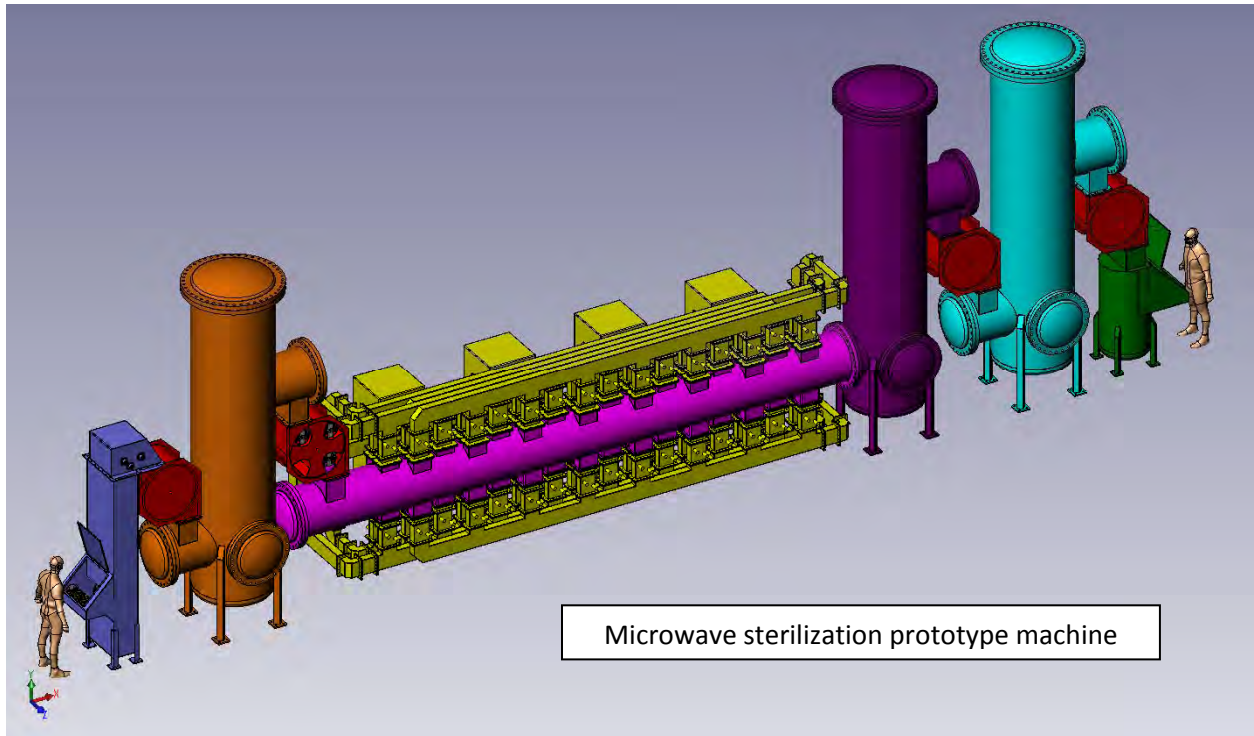
This has been a very involved technical process and one that Ocean Beauty would have never started on our own, yet if successful it could change the landscape for ready-to-eat seafood from Alaska.

I hope you can lend your support for HB 118 and help push our industry forward as we look for that next great "Product of Alaska".

Best Regards,

Mark Palmer

President – CEO Ocean Beauty Seafoods



Koeneman, Crystal A (CED)

From: Koeneman, Crystal A (CED)
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 4:56 PM
To: Koeneman, Crystal A (CED)
Subject: FW: HB118 Benefits

Dear Senator Paskvan,

I am a business and tax attorney in the law firm of Manley & Brautigam PC in Anchorage. Although I have lived in Alaska for over 20 years I have practiced tax law throughout the country for well over 30 years working directly for or representing high tech, manufacturing, and other companies in Seattle, Silicon Valley, and in other venues. Manley & Brautigam currently represents many Alaskan small business owners and frequently works with startups. Some portion of that work is research and development where some expenses of the entity would qualify for the federal R&D tax credit. As such, it is possible that those same expenditures would also qualify for State R&D Tax Credits under HB118 if that bill were to move forward – which could spur those entities to target more of their activities to Alaska rather than elsewhere. The HB118 Research and Development Tax Credit is a necessary addition to the State's incentive and pro-business arsenal and will clearly foster economic development in the State of Alaska. We strongly support its passage.

Alaska is one of the few States that does not have in place a research and development tax credit. The federal Government Accounting Office through the Office of Management and Budget has studied the federal R&D Tax Credit and found that it does stimulate innovation and entrepreneurship. So too would a State tax credit and these are exactly the activities and energy that Alaska needs to further diversify our economy. The bill appears well drafted in that major corporations, from outside, that already use the federal R&D Tax Credit, would get only additional credits from the State program for Alaska specific expenditures and then only those credits above what are already claimed and apportioned to Alaska. Use of the base period requires new and additional investment and research annually and means that only the additional expenditures will qualify for credit treatment and thereby ensures impetus for growth in the sector. This is truly an Alaska Tax Credit!

We strongly support the passage of HB118. I would be more than happy to discuss the bill and its potential impact with you or your staff.

Thanks, Steve

F. Steven Mahoney
Manley and Brautigam P.C.
845 K Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Telephone: (907) 334-5600
Cell: (907) 223-5096
Facsimile: (907) 334-9958
E-Mail Address: steve@mb.law.pro

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William Dann Professional Growth Systems

March 22, 2012

Governor Sean Parnell
State Capitol, Third Floor
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: HB 118

Dear Governor Parnell:

I write to you today to offer Anchorage Economic Development Corporation's support for the passage of HB 118, "An Act relating to a tax credit for qualified research and development expenditures." Focused on promoting investment in intellectual property and high growth types of businesses, HB 118 will be an important step in the broader effort to further diversify the Alaska economy.

Your proposal to create a 20 percent tax credit for research and development in Alaska has the potential to spur new investment and growth from Alaska's innovators and entrepreneurs. Through AEDC's extensive national outreach and economic research, we have found that this type of incentive is key to fostering economic growth in tomorrow's high value industry sectors.

House Bill 118 will encourage new growth and improve the economic diversity of Alaska. This type of incentive is good for the long term economic growth of Alaska and the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation encourages the legislature to support the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Bill Popp
President and CEO
Anchorage Economic Development Corporation



Representative Kurt Olson, Chair
House Labor & Commerce
State Capitol, Rm 24
Juneau, Alaska 99801

February 18, 2011

Dear Representative Olson:

I write to you today in support of HB118, "An Act relating to a tax credit for corporate income taxes paid for qualified research and development expenditures; and providing for an effective date," which will encourage innovation and business expansion in Alaska.

Innovation, experimentation, research and development are all time consuming and often expensive endeavors without a guarantee of financial return. Subsequently, businesses that can benefit from these activities often do not undertake these necessary functions due to the significant economic risk associated with them. HB 118 will work to encourage these activities by mitigating some of the risk a business might otherwise incur by offering a tax credit for qualified expenditures related research and development.

Although this credit will mitigate some risk, capping it at 20% will encourage responsible research with participating companies still assuming an appropriate portion of the risk.

Half of the private sector is populated by small businesses and as many studies have shown, entrepreneurs and small businesses are the driving force for economic growth. They are also the businesses that after an economic downturn are the quickest to return to growth. This bill will support these businesses as they look to expand their product lines, develop more efficient ways of doing business and enhance their current business. This legislation will help individual businesses, the state and Alaskans by stimulating private-sector investment, entrepreneurial activity and business expansion that will result in sustainable long-term benefits to our economy.

Sincerely,

Bill Popp
President & CEO

Voting Members

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Fairbanks North Star Borough

Office of the Mayor

809 Pioneer Road

P.O. Box 71267

Fairbanks, Alaska 99707-1267

907/459-1300

Fax 907/459-1102

Email mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us

February 24, 2011

Dear Governor Parnell,

We appreciate your continued interest in developing jobs and opportunity in Alaska. The recent legislation submitted by your office, House Bill 118 and 121, creating an Alaska microloan revolving loan fund and a tax credit for qualified research and development expenditures are good examples of your continued efforts. Here at the Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Division we recognize the need for this legislation and offer our support as you move this legislation forward.

Thank you,



Kathryn Dodge

Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development

PSPA
PACIFIC SEAFOOD PROCESSORS ASSOCIATION
Est. 1914

March 23, 2012

Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell,

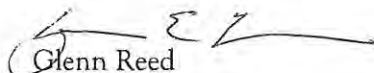
The Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA) supports your effort, through HB 118, to promote research and development in Alaska.

PSPA has been in existence continuously since 1914, and our member companies have invested billions of dollars in building and expanding seafood processing infrastructure in Alaska. Seafood processors have also invested over the years in new and modern equipment that has helped our industry adapt to changing markets and to produce value added products from Alaska's abundant fisheries resources. PSPA members take a long-term and optimistic view of the future of the seafood business, and we expect to continue to be a keystone resource development industry in Alaska long into the future.

Ours is a high-cost environment in which to operate, and margins are small. Alaska's seafood industry operates within a global, dynamic, and competitive commodity driven business setting that is defined by high volumes and low margins. Through research and development, processors are able meet challenges and explore new opportunities to enhance the value of seafood and improve the stability and profitability of our businesses. Your concept of a research and development tax credit offers the opportunity for seafood processors to make additional investments in Alaska. .

We appreciate your recognition of the costs of doing business in a challenging environment, and we thank you for encouraging innovation in Alaska through HB 118.

Sincerely,


Glenn Reed
President

1900 West Emerson Place, Suite 205, Seattle, WA 98119
Phone: (206) 281-1667 : Fax: (206) 283-2387
Web: www.pspafish.net

GUGGENHEIM

GUGGENHEIM PARTNERS
ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC
100 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SUITE 500
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA 90401
310 576 1270 OFFICE
310 576 1271 FACSIMILE

Senator Thomas Wagoner
Senator Joe Paskvan
Senate Finance Committee Co-chairs

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

March 28, 2012

Dear Senators Wagoner and Paskvan,

As a recent visitor to and fond admirer of the great State of Alaska, I write this letter to inform you of my support for House Bill 118, which provides tax credits for qualified research and development projects in the state. The expansion of Alaska's R&D capabilities is an important step toward encouraging private-sector investment, economic diversification and entrepreneurial innovation.

Earlier this month, I had the honor of speaking to the Alaska World Affairs Council in Anchorage and I talked at length about the wealth of resources and investment opportunities in the state. However, what really seemed to resonate with the audience was a frank discussion of Alaska's deficiencies in R&D, patent awards and science/engineering education.

Research and development as a percent of the state's total economic output is almost zero – 0.7% compared to an average of 2.6% for the U.S. overall. The number of patents awarded per 1,000 individuals is about 10% of the overall U.S. average. And the percent of graduate students preparing for science and engineering careers (per 1,000 individuals) is similarly far smaller than the rest of the United States.

These are critical issues that must be addressed as Alaska's economy evolves from a dependence on natural resource extraction to a more dynamic, faster-growing base of industries, including technology, health care and transportation. Throughout its storied history, Alaska has benefited greatly from its vast natural resources. Now is the time to encourage, develop and invest in the state's human capital by fostering private-sector R&D – establishing the technical expertise and manpower that will be crucial to the state's future economic growth.

As you may recall, the Guggenheim family also has a storied history in Alaska, building the Kennecott Copper Mine and the Trans-Alaska Railway, as well as other major infrastructure projects. The Guggenheim family helped create a foundation for the state to grow. You should expect, encourage and incentivize the same approach from private companies doing business in Alaska today.

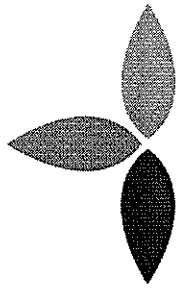
I urge you and your esteemed colleagues in the Senate to support the passage of HB 118. Thank you for your attention to this issue and please feel free to call me directly if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Scott Miner", is written over the printed name.

B. Scott Miner

Chief Investment Officer
Guggenheim Partners, LLC



ALASKA GROWTH CAPITAL

An ASRC Company

March 15, 2012

The Honorable Thomas Wagoner
Co-Chair, Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: HB118, "An Act relating to a tax credit for qualified research and development expenditures; and providing for an effective date."

Dear Senator Wagoner:

I am writing on behalf of Alaska Growth Capital (AGC) to express support for HB118. This bill creates a tax-credit for research and development conducted in Alaska. We at Alaska Growth Capital are certain this bill will directly and positively impact job creation and economic development in Alaska.

Alaska Growth Capital has been active in the tax-credits business since 2004, and has lent over \$300 million in the Alaska economy since 2000. In our experience, tax-credits provide needed incentives for projects that otherwise would not have been undertaken. These projects "on the tipping point" provide much needed entrepreneurialism that injects capital into the local economy through wages, purchases and taxes. Without credits, infrastructure is not developed, investment not made, and jobs go elsewhere.

Research and Development has two additional long-term benefits: specialization and money multiplication. Geographic areas have unique demands on the products and services sold inside. Research and development that tailors products and services to local conditions provide the local consumers with a superior product that can spur entirely new industries. One major example of this is the Cold Climate House in Anaktuvuk Pass; this house has the potential to revolutionize the way houses are built in Arctic climates and brings with it potential for jobs and lowered costs for homeowners.

The second long-term benefit is money multiplication. Research and Development conducted in Alaska will produce products and services whose owners are in

Alaska. That means when Alaskans use a specialized product with roots in Alaska, their dollars are spent here circulated here and create jobs here, rather than going outside and contributing to what economists call "capital leakage." Diversified and stable economies are supported by Research and Development's long-term impacts. The infrastructure needed to conduct R & D in Alaska will begin to be constructed, and the quality of life for all Alaskans will improve with more economic opportunity.

Alaska Growth Capital supports H.B. 118 because of the alignment with our corporate mission, to support economic development in Alaska.

I respectfully request that you schedule hearings on this piece of legislation and offer your support. I am happy to answer any questions; should you or your committee have any, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. Short', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Hugh Short, President/CEO
Alaska Growth Capital

**JOHN NILES WANAMAKER
2964 WENTWORTH STREET
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508**

PH. 907.830.3000
John@WanaWorld.com
www.alaskaventurepartners.com

22 February, 2011

Dear Governor Parnell:

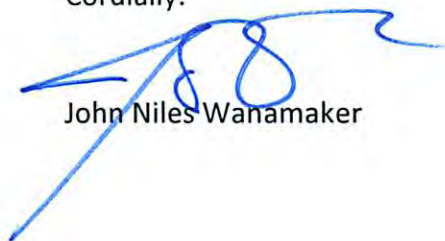
I am writing today in support of your efforts to create innovation and investments in Alaska via House Bill 118 and Senate Bill 64. Innovation can be an expensive, intricate and time-intensive enterprise. But it also can spark a chain of investments in capital equipment, workers and spillover activities in every economic sector. Your proposal to establish a 20 percent tax credit for research and development conducted by corporate taxpayers in Alaska recognizes the value of R&D and the advantage it can provide to Alaska entrepreneurs and innovators.

This kind of program has the capacity to create job opportunities for Alaskans by encouraging increased investment in Alaska's human and natural resources. If enacted, the legislation would stimulate private-sector investment, entrepreneurial activity, and business expansion in Alaska that will bring opportunity and sustainable long-term benefits to the state and its residents.

House Bill 118/Senate Bill 64 will help spur sustainable economic growth in Alaska. It is good for business, for the economy, and for Alaska families.

I encourage legislative support, with hope for its passage

Cordially:



John Niles Wanamaker

March 26, 2012

Twenty-Seventh Legislature of the State of Alaska – Second Session

Subject: House Bill 118 – Research & Development Tax Credit

Dear Senator Paskvan:

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 118.

As an owner of a small Alaskan business, I am actively involved in technology-based research and development. A tax credit for research and development will benefit my business, and more importantly, incentivize my innovation.

A significant research project my business is working on right now is for the US Air Force. This is to produce a better volcanic ash plume forecasting tool. As you are aware, there are 100 active volcanoes in Alaska. Without notice, a volcano may erupt and airborne ash can quickly close airspace. Nearly all aviation from North America to Asia transits Alaskan airspace resulting in significant commerce for the Anchorage and Fairbanks airports. This improved forecasting tool will be key to minimizing economic losses due to diverted air travel.

House Bill 118 would greatly assist my small business in developing and protecting the intellectual properties being researched.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me should you have any questions.



Keith W. Cunningham, PhD
President – Mobile Mapping Corporation
PO Box 751801
Fairbanks, AK 99775
kwc@mobile-map.com



Senator Joe Paskvan
State Capitol, Rm 115
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Date 3/25/12

Dear Senator,

Kijani
1130 SE Spring St
Pullman, WA, 66163
T 509-339-5066
kj35102@gmail.com

I am writing to you to support actions by the State of Alaska to enable and encourage technology commercialization out of Alaska's university system. In particular, I support HB 118, which is the Governor's bill to establish a research and development tax credit in Alaska. This credit would parallel the federal tax credit, which, I understand, is similar to 38 other states.

I have been involved in management of technology transfer from public institutions for the last 13 years. I spent 6 years at Virginia Tech as assistant director and 7 years leading the effort at Washington State University. At WSU I successfully lead the licensing of well over 100 technologies and the start-up of 14 companies.

I have now formed a consulting company called Kijani, we help universities and businesses work together to take technologies from the lab to commerce. Successful transfer through start-up's and licensing to support existing Alaska companies will result in local, high paying job creation. We work with large and small companies and research institutions around the world.

In early March I was fortunate to be invited to the University of Alaska Fairbanks to assess intellectual property in agriculture. I was most impressed by the enthusiasm of the faculty and administration and the quality of several of the opportunities. Although I have not looked in detail, I understand there are some significant engineering research programs that are likely to be fertile ground for commercial opportunity.

Kijani
1130 SE Spring St
Pullman, WA, 66163
T 509-339-5066
kj35102@gmail.com

It may help if I explain a particular example of a technology commercialization out of WSU that has been a success. About 13 years ago a researcher at WSU started to develop a new method of sterilizing food using microwave assisted thermal sterilization (MATS). This new method reduced the heating time for a canning like process from 1 hr to a few minutes. The research was initially funded only by the army - the army wanted better tasting rations for the troops. Over several iterations, many large food companies, including Ocean Beauty Seafoods, became involved in the development of a product that will revolutionize food processing. Imagine shelf stable salmon that is more like freshly cooked than the highly processed canned product! While at WSU I helped set the industrial research consortium that funded industrial development of the MATS machine, found an entrepreneur (through an entrepreneur in residence program) to form a development and manufacturing company for MATS. I also was instrumental in setting up set up the start-up by introducing lawyers and other support professionals, helping draft a business plan and serving as a founding board member.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to learn more about the potential benefits of university technology commercialization to the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "K" and "J".

Keith Jones PhD
Founding Partner

Lockheed Martin Corporation
2121 Crystal Drive Suite 100 Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone 703-413-5855 Facsimile 703-413-5846
E-mail: larry.duncan@lmco.com



Lawrence Duncan III
Vice President
Federal and State Government Relations & PAC Affairs

March 16, 2011

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell:

I am writing to express Lockheed Martin's strong support for House Bill 118 and Senate Bill 64, legislation that reflects your effort to encourage more research and development in the State of Alaska.

Lockheed Martin is heavily focused on research and development, which is critical to innovation and national security. Incentives that encourage more corporate investment in research and development will support economic growth and high-technology jobs across a wide spectrum of industries. These incentives also will support the research efforts of universities working in concert with industry on projects that will improve the lives of all Alaskans.

Forty states have adopted research and development tax credits. Your effort in the State of Alaska is an important step toward expanding and diversifying Alaska's economy. Thank you for your leadership on encouraging new research and development in Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence Duncan III", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lawrence Duncan III



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March 23, 2012

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Re: House Bill 118 / Senate Bill 64

Dear Governor Parnell,

I am writing in support of House Bill 118 and Senate Bill 64 and your efforts to encourage more research and development in the State of Alaska.

Research and development can be an expensive and time consuming undertaking. However, it can result in both immediate and longer term economic benefits in the form of high tech jobs, capital investment and associated expenditure, as well as spin-off business activities that can result from this research.

A program that encourages corporate investment in research and development in the State of Alaska can result in economic opportunities that may not otherwise accrue to the State. This direct investment and the resulting longer term opportunities can both grow and diversify the Alaskan economy.

The proposed program of tax credits clearly demonstrates that Alaska values innovation, and recognises the advantage it can provide to the State. We fully support your efforts to enact House Bill 118 / Senate Bill 64 and thank you for your leadership with respect to this initiative. Please let us know if there are any further supportive actions we can take to ensure that this important prospective legislation becomes reality.

Sincerely,

James McKenzie
President & CEO
Ucore Rare Metals Inc.
OTCQX: UURAF

454 Voyageur Way, Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia B4B 2A7

(902) 482-5214 phone ▪ (902) 492-0197 fax ▪ www.ucore.com ▪ TSX.V: UCU ▪ OTCQX: UURAF

R&D tax credits bring promise of sustainable growth

Posted: Saturday, March 3, 2012 8:59 pm

Alaska's economy is often likened to a three-legged stool. For decades, the petroleum industry, federal government spending, and the combined economic boost of all other basic sectors have essentially supported the state's economy.

In recent years, we have seen those legs become a bit wobbly. Government spending is way down, relative to what it used to be, and it is clear the days of federal largesse are behind us. While revenue from the extraction and sale of our oil and gas resources has remained mostly stable, production is on a steady downward trajectory.

For these reasons, it is more important than ever for the state to shore up its foundations by diversifying its economy and strengthening its existing economic sectors.

Economic diversification, however, does not happen in a vacuum. It requires an atmosphere conducive to innovation, which can be an expensive, intricate and time-intensive enterprise. Innovation also can spark a chain of investments in capital equipment, workers and spillover activities in every economic sector.

So, Alaskans should be encouraged by the news that the state House on Friday approved legislation that would establish a tax credit for home-grown research and development. House Bill 118, now on its way to the Senate for consideration, is part of a suite of economic development legislation proposed by Gov. Sean Parnell. The bill offers a 20 percent tax credit on qualified research and development expenditures.

Its purpose is to incentivize companies to conduct independent research and development activities that will, in turn, stimulate private-sector investment, entrepreneurial activity, and business expansion in Alaska. These are things that bring jobs and economic opportunity to Alaskans, while providing sustainable long-term benefits to our economy.

Alaska is already poised to be a leader in cold climate housing research and the processing of in-demand rare earth minerals. The potential in other areas is staggering.

For example, the state sits on more than 50 percent of all U.S. coal reserves. Meanwhile, promising cutting-edge technologies for cleaning coal and increasing its efficiency are being fine-tuned and deployed in China and elsewhere overseas. Imagine the potential for jobs, clean, affordable energy and expansion of Alaska's economic base if those technologies could be developed further here?

This is the kind of potential HB 118 holds. We hope the Senate sees the same value in the legislation that the House did and gives it speedy approval.

How the Mat-Su delegation voted:

- Rep. Eric Feige, yes
- Rep. Carl Gatto, not present
- Rep. Wes Keller, yes
- Rep. Mark Neuman, not present
- Rep. Bill Stoltze, yes



My Turn: R&D tax credit will boost economy, UAF

Thursday, February 24, 2011

Story last updated at 2/24/2011 - 5:11 pm

My Turn: R&D tax credit will boost economy, UAF

By Brian Rogers | UAF CHANCELLOR

On Jan. 24, Gov. Sean Parnell submitted a bill to establish a 20 percent tax credit for qualified research and development conducted by private businesses in Alaska. If approved, this credit could help stimulate private-sector investment, entrepreneurial activity and business expansion in Alaska that would bring opportunity and sustainable long-term benefits to the state.

In introducing the legislation, the governor said, "Innovation can be an expensive, intricate and time-intensive enterprise. However, it can also spark a chain of investments in capital equipment [and] workers, and spillover activities into multiple economic sectors."

The governor is correct. Innovation can be an expensive, intricate and time-intensive enterprise, but it is definitely worthwhile. The University of Alaska Fairbanks, the state's leading research university, is a partner with Alaska's private sector to use innovation to diversify the state's economy.

UAF has long recognized the value of partnering the knowledge and expertise of our researchers with the needs of communities and private businesses across the state. We have robust research programs that lead to technology development in areas directly related to the needs of the state's economy, including energy, engineering, geophysics, petroleum and mining, health sciences and agriculture.

Some specific examples of these partnerships include:

- UAF, the Alaska Berry Growers and Alaska Blue are examining plant propagation and the nutraceutical properties of blueberries and other berries.
- The UAF School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences is collaborating with the Homegrown Market in Fairbanks to make locally grown reindeer meat available for purchase.
- The UAF College of Liberal Arts and Denali — The Alaska Gas Pipeline are working together to provide training for Alaskans interested in working on the pipeline as archeological technicians.
- The Cooperative Extension Service Thorne Bay program is working with island sawmill operators to turn wood waste into wood fuel to heat the local school and government facilities.
- The Alaska Center for Energy and Power, several utilities, landowners and communities are quantifying resources and assessing options for geothermal development in several areas of the state. They are also investigating a variety of other private and public energy research and development projects.

- The College of Engineering and Mines is conducting applied research in technology to find minerals, extract them and return the land and water to Alaskan's high standards.
- The UAF School of Management is sponsoring the third Arctic Innovation Competition this year, spotlighting innovation by Alaska's entrepreneurs.
- UAF's Community and Technical College provides a wide variety of applied business courses for Alaska entrepreneurs and small businesses.
- The Economic Opportunity Task Force, created by Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation, works with UAF research faculty members to identify technologies and processes that are ready for transfer to the private sector.

UAF's newly created Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization will augment these efforts and facilitate new partnerships. Under the leadership of associate vice chancellor Dan White, the office will work with partners to commercialize the intellectual property and technology created by UAF's research and development efforts. This work will offer a strong compliment to the governor's endeavor.

In most states, a healthy private research and development sector works in tandem with university research. That hasn't been the case in Alaska; there has been very little private research and development here. The research and development tax credit can change this dynamic. We have seen the film industry tax credit make a difference in the state. This new credit can have a similar effect. It is not just about the opportunity for corporations to conduct independent research in Alaska. Independent research and development can create a ripple effect that benefits more than just the businesses involved.

This is one of the reasons why the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development Advisory Council, various Alaska businesses and chambers of commerce, as well as municipalities and economic development councils, support the governor's legislation. It's the reason we support it as well.

The governor's proposed research and development tax credit has the potential to significantly boost economic development in Alaska. UAF is ready to be a partner in that endeavor.

- Rogers is the chancellor of the University of Alaska Fairbanks.