

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM State of Alaska Office of the Administrative Director

**Doug Wooliver** Administrative Attorney

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The Honorable Carl Gatto Chair, House Judiciary Committee Alaska State Legislature State Capitol Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Gatto:

The Alaska Supreme Court respectfully requests that the House Judiciary Committee schedule HB 133 for a committee hearing. The bill creates two new superior court judge positions in Anchorage. The judges will handle civil cases.

Additional judges are needed because Anchorage superior court judges are the busiest in the state and a combination of more time being devoted to Child in Need of Aid cases and an ever-increasing number of unrepresented litigants has created a workload that is unsustainable.

Adding two new judges will not completely solve this problem, but it will provide some relief as the court works to develop alternative ways to manage the workload.

A fiscal note and sponsor statement are attached. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Doug Wooliver Administrative Attorney Alaska Court System