



February 27, 2014

Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Letter of Support House Bill 244 (SB 109): Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas

Dear Senators Kelly & Meyer and members of the committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce is a member-driven organization, representing over 700 businesses and organizations throughout the Interior of Alaska.

House Bill 244 (companion SB 109) have been introduced this legislative session to extend the effective sunset date for terminating the Citizen’s Advisory Commission on Federal Areas (CACFA). Originally created after the passage of ANILCA in 1981 and revived again in 2007, CACFA has a long and storied history of serving to protect the right of Alaska’s citizens to access and utilize millions of acres of federal lands located across the state.

The Commission is responsible for identifying and reducing potential negative impacts on Alaska and its citizens from federal actions on any of the 239 million acres of federal land in the state and is essential to ensuring that the best interests of the State of Alaska are maintained and enforced with respect to the management of federal lands in the State.

Mutual collaboration between the State and Federal governments on the usage of these lands is vital to their continued protection. House Bill 244 (SB 109), by extending the sunset period of this Commission, will allow for the continuation of the important work being done to foster these relationships.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce strongly supports and recommends passage of this legislation and continued funding for the small, commission support staff within the Department of Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[Signature of Steve Lundgren]

Steve Lundgren
Board of Directors, Chair

[Signature of Lisa Herbert]

Lisa Herbert
Executive Director

INVESTORS

DIAMOND

- BP Exploration
ConocoPhillips
ExxonMobil
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital & Denali Center
Flint Hills Resources Alaska
Mt. McKinley Bank

PLATINUM

- Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
Doyon, Limited
Fred Meyer Stores
Golden Heart Utilities
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska

GOLD

- Birchwood Homes
Carlson Center
Denali State Bank
Design Alaska
Doyon Utilities LLC
First National Bank Alaska
GCI
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
Lynden
Northrim Bank
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC
Usibelli Coal Mine
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.

SILVER

- Alaska Communications
Alaska Airlines
Alaska Railroad
Alaska USA
Dr. Christopher Henry – Henry Orthodontics
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK
Exclusive Paving/Univ. Redi-Mix
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
General Teamsters Local 959
Golden Valley Electric Association
Hale & Associates, Inc.
Key Bank
MAC Federal Credit Union
Personnel Plus
Sam’s Club
Shell Exploration & Production Co.
Spirit of Alaska FCU
Tanana Valley Clinic
TDL Staffing
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Verizon Wireless
Vivlamore Companies
Yukon Title Company