

North Slope Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Charlotte E. Brower, Mayor

March 19, 2014

The Honorable Lesil McGuire
Alaska State Senate
State Capital Room 103
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Subject: Support for Senate Bill 140

Dear Senator McGuire:

This letter is to express support for SB140, an Act creating the Arctic Infrastructure and development program and fund in AIDEA. Your efforts to call attention to the need for Arctic infrastructure as the Co-Chair of the Alaska Arctic Policy Commission are greatly appreciated.

As the world looks toward the Arctic for future development, there is a growing need for the development of infrastructure in order to meet the demands of public and private concerns. Everything from basic logistics, staging, marine servicing, communications, emergency response, and transportation systems are currently lacking.

All levels of government – federal, state, and municipal – will need to work in conjunction with the private sector to plan, design, permit, finance, and build all these systems. The mechanisms in SB140 are a good way to begin to set up a means for all of these entities to join forces. Through the use of loans, loan guarantees, and access to low-cost capital, AIDEA can provide the tools to start public-private partnerships.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our support for this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlotte E. Brower".

Charlotte Brower, Mayor
North Slope Borough

cc: Senator Donald Olson
Representative Ben Nageak