

Representative Lindsey Holmes

Sponsor Statement

HB 57 – Entity Transactions Act

House Bill 57 conforms to the Uniform Law Commissioners' Model Entity Transaction Act (META). If implemented in the State of Alaska, this legislation will help facilitate transactions between more than one form of entity, improve the existing business climate in Alaska, and help reduce unnecessary administrative and legal burdens currently imposed on Alaska companies.

During the past twenty years many new types of business entities—including limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and limited liability limited partnerships—have been recognized under state law. As a result of the proliferation of new entity forms, many businesses now utilize various types of entities in their organizational structures. The relaxation of federal tax rules governing entity classification has led to an increase in the volume of restructuring and acquisition transactions by and among the various types of entity forms.

Because of the lack of clear statutory authority allowing transactions between more than one form of entity, these transactions have often required the use of multiple indirect steps, as opposed to a single transaction. House Bill 57 will offer new statutory authority to permit cross-entity transactions in order to remain responsive to the needs of Alaskan companies and should be enacted in order to allow Alaska businesses the opportunity to engage in cross-entity transactions.

Adopting HB 57 will be an important step towards bringing Alaska more into the mainstream of statutory business law.

I urge your support of this legislation.