



October 27, 2015

RE: ARDOR Reauthorization Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Sealaska Corporation is one of 12 Alaska Native Regional Corporations established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Our shareholders are descendants of the original inhabitants of Southeast Alaska – the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people.

I am writing to convey Sealaska's strong support of the reauthorization of the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) program. The work and support the ARDORs are able to provide through this program offer great benefit to the state, and will be a crucial component in Alaska's future efforts to diversify and grow the economy. Although ARDORs have much in common and implement similar scopes of work, the form and function of each ARDOR is customized to their region.

Over the past two decades ARDORs have become regional leaders in economic development planning and advocacy. The 11 organizations that currently hold ARDOR status work diligently to uphold that mission. Leveraging a relatively modest investment by the state (roughly \$70,000 per ARDOR), these organizations have been able to match the state funds they receive by almost three to one. They have then utilized this funding to do a range of important projects across the state which have improved the local economies and driven economic development efforts statewide.

Please consider supporting the ARDOR reauthorization at its current funding level. This project is not only a good use of state dollars, but an excellent resource for the state and private sector. We believe this type of statewide, collaborative economic development effort is exactly what Alaska needs.

Sincerely,  
Sealaska Corporation

Anthony Mallott  
President & CEO