



April 6, 2015

The Honorable Steve Thompson, Co-Chair
The Honorable Mark Neuman, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Support for HB 118 - Municipal Energy Improvement Assessments/Bonds

Dear Representatives Thompson and Neuman:

The Alaska Hotel and Lodging Association is the leading voice and resource for Alaska's lodging industry, providing jobs to 12,000 Alaskans and investing millions in infrastructure each year.

Hotel and lodging businesses are major consumers of energy, and the threat of rising energy costs risk our industry's long-term viability. AKHLA supports the Governor and Legislature in their effort to advance policies leading to the long-term reduction and stabilization of energy costs, and appreciates the introduction of HB 118.

We view the property-assessed clean energy (PACE) model as an innovative mechanism for financing energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on our private properties. In local jurisdictions that chose to participate, HB 118 would allow hotel properties, large and small alike, to implement such improvements without having to make large, upfront cash payments. This would help eliminate a key disincentive to investing in energy improvements resulting in savings over time.

Passage of this legislation will help move our industry and Alaska's economy forward, and we urge you to take action and pass HB 118 this legislative session.

Sincerely,



Alicia Maltby, Executive Director
Alaska Hotel & Lodging Association

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