



LEADER in All We Do

March 7, 2017

Honorable Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Chair, House State Affairs Committee
State Capital Room 411
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Doyon support for HB 127, An Act relating to a permanent fund dividend for overturned criminal convictions

Dear Chairman Kreiss-Tomkins,

This letter is a written statement of support on behalf of the Doyon, Limited Board of Directors, our employees, and shareholders for HB 127, "An Act relating to a permanent fund dividend for an individual whose conviction has been vacated, reversed, or dismissed; and relating to the calculation of the value of the permanent fund dividend by including payment to individuals eligible for a permanent fund dividend because of a conviction that has been vacated, reversed, or dismissed."

Doyon is one of the thirteen Native regional corporations established by Congress under the terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971. Doyon's mission is to promote the economic and social well-being of our present and future shareholders, to strengthen their Native way of life, and to protect and enhance our land and resources.

Just over a year ago, Doyon celebrated with Tanana Chiefs Conference and the Interior Alaska Native community the release of Marvin Roberts, George Frese, Eugene Vent and Kevin Pease from incarceration. These men, known as the Fairbanks Four maintained their innocence for 19 years and were partially vindicated after a five week trial when the State of Alaska traded the keys to their jail cells for the release of any civil liability in the prosecution and investigation of their cases.

Doyon also recognizes that the Alaska Permanent Fund is one of Alaska's greatest assets. While most Alaskans have benefitted from the vision of Governor Hammond and the Alaska State Legislature who originally enacted the permanent fund dividend program, the Fairbanks Four have not. HB 127 would allow for Alaska's wrongfully convicted to participate in the dividend program that continues to benefit all Alaskans.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill, and for the work you do on behalf of Alaska. If you have any questions regarding Doyon's support for HB 127, please contact our office at 907-459-2092.

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Schutt
President and CEO
Doyon, Limited