



March 6, 2017

Senator Shelley Hughes
Chair
Senate Education Committee
Alaska State Senate

Dear Senator Hughes:

On behalf of the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation, I would like to heartily endorse SB66, which would restructure the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) into a public corporation.

The Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation works hand in hand with ASCA, as we are the private nonprofit whose mission is to support arts and culture in Alaska. I also retired in 2012 as the Executive Director of ASCA and know intimately the critical work this state agency has been doing for many years.

SB 66 would provide the flexibility in programming and fundraising that has become more imperative as Alaska works through the next few years of economic challenges. ASCA has the potential to be an economic catalyst to strengthen artists, arts organizations and educators through private partnerships and projects. But remaining as a classic state agency will hinder, not help, ASCA's innovative efforts.

ASCA has done an excellent job of garnering private foundation support, primarily through the partnership with the Rasmuson Foundation. Continuing to build these relationships with the transformation of this Council into a public corporation will benefit the arts, artists and the citizens of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Fox (sent via email)

Vice President, Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation
2017 Recipient, Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award in the Arts
Recipient, 2017 Joint Legislative Citation, Alaska Legislature

Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation Board Members: Kes Woodward, Fairbanks (President); Charlotte Fox, Anchorage (Vice President); Linda Boochever, Anchorage (Secretary); Jayson Smart, Palmer (Treasurer); Chris Cooke, Anchorage; Norm Campbell, Sitka; Peggy Shumaker, Fairbanks; Asia Freeman, Homer; April Laktonen Counciller, Kodiak. Andrea Noble, Executive Director, ASCA - ex officio.



Alaska
Arts & Culture
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