



January 31, 2017

Sent Via Electronic Mail
Representative Dean Westlake
State Capitol Room 24
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Doyon Support for HB 78 Indigenous Peoples Day

Dear Representative Westlake,

This letter is a written statement of support for HB 78, a bill to establish the second Monday in October each year as Indigenous Peoples Day. Doyon's mission is to enhance our position as a financially strong Native Corporation in order to promote the social and economic well-being of our shareholders, strengthen our Native way of life, and enhance our land and resources.

Doyon, Limited is the state-chartered Alaska Native Corporation established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for Interior Alaska. Currently we have over 19,300 shareholders, most of whom live here in Alaska.

Doyon welcomed Governor Walker's proclamation designated October 12, 2015 and again October 10, 2016 as Indigenous Peoples Day, and we further would welcome an annual celebration which recognizes not only the history of Alaska Native people and Alaska's history, but also current contributions by Indigenous people to art, culture, policy, knowledge, traditions, and achievement.

Thank you for the work you do in the interest of Alaskans, and if you have any questions concerning this recommendation, please contact our office at (907) 459-2092.

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Schutt
President and CEO
Doyon, Limited

Cc:

Representative Bryce Edgmon, Speaker of the House
Representative Chris Tuck, House Majority Leader
Representative Charisse Millet, House Minority Leader