



February 28, 2018

Honorable Members of the Alaska Legislature
Alaska State Capital Building
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: SB 202

Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) is an Alaska Native Regional Corporation established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. As an Alaska Native corporation, we serve the interests of the Alaska Native people of the Chugach region and represent more than 2,500 shareholders. Our family of businesses employ more than 5,000 people, including 600 Alaskans, around the world. We believe that people matter most, from our shareholders to our customers to our employees. We strive to provide people opportunities for success, while promoting the cultural values of the Chugach people.

Chugach supports the SB 202, which would Amend AS 46.03.822 to clarify that Alaska Native Corporations that received contaminated sites as part of their ANCSA settlement lands are not legally liable for prior contamination that existed at the time of transfer.

Lifting the legal liability of our member corporations will allow us to begin to pursue clean-up funds that were not available to us previously. We wish to create well-paying highly skilled clean-up jobs in rural Alaska where jobs are desperately needed.

Chugach again thanks you for your work on behalf of our State. If I can offer any assistance or answer any further questions, feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Josie Hickel
President
Chugach Commercial Holdings