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February 28, 2020

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The Honorable Click Bishop
State Capitol Building
Room 121
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Committee Substitute for Sponsor Substitute for Senate Bill 155 (RES)

Dear Senator Bishop:

The First Things First Alaska Foundation (FTFAF) supports CSSSSB 155(RES), "An Act relating to exploration and mining rights; relating to annual labor requirements with respect to mining claims and related leases; relating to statements of annual labor; defining 'labor'; and providing for an effective date."

CSSSSB 155(RES) promotes needed clarity to current statutes for the mining industry, for both the small and large mine operators. The bill is the result of input from the mining industry and the Department of Natural Resources and resolves issues such as the issuance of a notice of abandonment due to seemingly minor mistakes or reporting errors.

The State of Alaska and organizations like FTFAF are working hard to provide for a growing economy and remain "Open for Business." Your bill, SB 115, is a needed piece to the growth puzzle and important that it passes this session.

Thank you for your work on this issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph E. Kahklen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph Kahklen
President

First Things First Alaska Foundation (FTFAF) is dedicated to preserving the economic viability and future of Alaska through education. There is a clear need to educate the public on the benefits of responsible economic development and natural resource management.