



March 11, 2021

Alaska State Legislature
House Transportation Committee
The Honorable Grier Hopkins, Chair
State Capitol Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: HB 104, Motor Fuels Tax Support

Honorable Chair and House Transportation Members,

DOWL is a longtime Alaska company - our founder, Lewis Dickinson, started his engineering business in his garage in Anchorage in 1962. Since then, we have grown around the state with three Alaska offices (Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks) and expanded to the Lower 48 states with offices in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

While we are not ones to typically support tax increases, a reasonable fuel tax increase as outlined in HB 104 is timely and needed. Some of the most compelling reasons include:

- It's been more than 50 years since an increase has been seen
- Alaskans' per capita income has gone up nearly 11 times in 50 years
- We have the lowest tax rate on highway and marine fuel of any state
- The State of Alaska has a \$264.5M deferred maintenance backlog
- This tax could help pay for maintenance and leave federal dollars for expansion projects

We could enumerate all the other reasons for supporting it with facts and figures, but the committee has already heard those in well-researched and conceived presentations. We simply want you to know that DOWL's 17 Alaska-based owners are asking you to support this bill to update Alaska's motor fuel tax structure and provide much-needed funding for maintenance.

Sincerely,
DOWL

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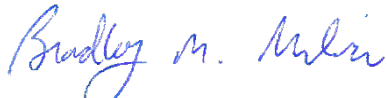
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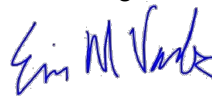
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