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AOGA Invited Testimony on House Joint Resolution 12 Senate Resources Committee March 24, 2021

Good Afternoon Chairman Revak and members of the Committee. For the record, my name is Kara Moriarty and I am the President/CEO of the Alaska Oil and Gas Association, commonly referred to as "AOGA." Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on House Joint Resolution 12.

When ANILCA was passed in 1980, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was expanded from nine million acres to over 19 million acres, with over 90% of the region permanently protected as wilderness. But one of the many compromises of ANILCA is found in section 1002 of the Act, which was the clear intent for future oil and gas development on the Coastal Plain.

One of the things I would like to stress the most is that Alaska's oil and gas industry has a tremendous record of safe, effective, and environmentally responsible development in the State, and especially in the Arctic, for decades. I also want to stress that development does not occur the same way, and technology continues to decrease its footprint. Back when the oil fields started on the North Slope, a typical oil pad would be 65-70 acres. Today, the newest drilling pads are just 12-14 acres.

Eventual development of the Coastal Plain is a long-term process. We know that it is not going to happen overnight. However, the demand for oil and gas remains for at least the next 30-40 years. Development of the Coastal Plain will be good for the country and will continue to build upon the jobs and revenues the industry has contributed to the State of Alaska for decades.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.