

March 9, 2021

The Honorable Zack Fields Co-Chair House Labor & Commerce Committee State Capitol, Barnes 124 Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Ivy Sponholz Co-Chair House Labor & Commerce Committee State Capitol, Barnes 124 Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB24 Virtual Meetings for Corporations

Dear Co-Chair Fields and Co-Chair Sponholz:

Alaska Telecom Association is the statewide association of telecommunications companies in Alaska. We were founded in 1949 and our members connect Alaskans with landline, wireless, and broadband services.

We are writing in support of SB24, which would allow corporations' shareholder meetings and nonprofit member meetings to be held electronically. During the past year the ability to meet virtually was very important to telecommunications companies. Virtual meetings allowed them to safely keep members and shareholders informed. Looking ahead, it will be necessary to continue virtual meetings as well as other safety measures to prevent spread of the COVID-19 virus for some time. Providing the opportunity to conduct virtual meetings will be an important measure in supporting those safety measures.

Thank you for hearing SB24, we support this bill and appreciate the Committee's work in considering it.

Sincerely, Christine D'Ermor

Christine O'Connor Executive Director