

Alaska Oil and Gas Association



121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 207
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2035
Phone: (907) 272-1481 Fax: (907) 279-8114
Email: info@aoga.org

March 11, 2021

VIA EMAIL: House.Labor.And.Commerce@akleg.gov

Representative Zack Fields, Co-Chair
Representative Ivy Spohnholz, Co-Chair
House Labor and Commerce Committee
Alaska State Capitol
120 4th Street
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Senate Bill 24, Virtual Meetings for Corporations

Dear Co-Chairs Spohnholz and Fields:

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association (AOGA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill 24 (ver B), which would allow, on a more permanent basis, for entities incorporated in the State of Alaska to hold meetings and vote by remote communication, should their bylaws also permit such action. On behalf of our membership, we write to express our support for this legislation.

Incorporated in Alaska in 1966, AOGA is a professional trade association whose mission is to foster the long-term viability of the oil and gas industry for the benefit of all Alaskans. For more than half a century, we have represented the majority of companies exploring, developing, producing, transporting, refining, or marketing oil and gas on the North Slope, in the Cook Inlet, and in the offshore areas of Alaska.

Alaska's oil and gas operations are widespread and exist in some of the most remote areas of the state. With AOGA's governing boards and committees comprised of individuals who work in such a geographically varied industry, it is not often feasible for everyone to be physically present in the same room to conduct business. As a 501(c)(6) nonprofit, AOGA's ability to hold remote meetings, whether online or via teleconference, has been critical to membership communication and our organization's ability to function. Of course, as for many, this need for flexibility was only further demonstrated by the events of the COVID-19 Pandemic declared a public health emergency on March 11, 2020. As an industry in which safety is *the* top priority, our member companies swiftly implemented strict protocols to mitigate spread and ensure the health and

safety of their employees and communities. One year later, we find virtual communications are still necessary to ensure our members equal access to meetings and the ability to safely conduct business.

AOGA supports legislative action to ensure all incorporated entities in the State of Alaska have the flexibility to conduct business virtually or in-person, in accordance with their bylaws. We thank the bill sponsor for bringing this legislation forward and encourage the passage of Senate Bill 24. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kara Moriarty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kara" being more prominent than the last name "Moriarty".

Kara Moriarty
President/CEO
Alaska Oil and Gas Association

CC: Senator David Wilson, Sponsor, Senate Bill 24