

# Alaska Regional Coalition

*Representing 100 Communities*

May 3, 2021

The Honorable Tiffany Zulkosky  
Representative  
Alaska State Legislature  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

**Subject: SUPPORT for HB184 Require Tribal Child Welfare Compact**

Dear Rep. Zulkosky:

As the Alaska Regional Coalition, we write to offer support for HB184 An Act Requiring State Participation in a Tribal Child Welfare Compact.

Our individual organizations are proud to have signed on to the historic compact in 2017. Relationships and partnerships were built in order to come to agreement and sign the Tribal Child Welfare Compact. This legislation is an opportunity to formalize that relationship for generations to come. We look forward to continuing this working relationship with the state to benefit our children and families.

*Ana baasee', Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa, Qu yana* for your work on this important issue.

Respectfully,

PJ Simon, Chief/Chairman  
**Tanana Chiefs Conference**

Melanie Bahnke, President/CEO  
**Kawerak, Inc.**

Tim Gilbert, President/CEO  
**Maniilaq Assn.**

Jan Vanderpool, Executive Director  
**Chugachmiut**

Richard Peterson, President  
**Central Council Tlingit & Haida  
Indian Tribes of Alaska**

*The **Alaska Regional Coalition** is a consortium of four Alaska Native regional tribal nonprofits and one regional tribe – Tanana Chiefs Conference, Maniilaq, Kawerak, Chugachmiut, and Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. We are all recognized by the U.S. Indian Self-Determination Act to provide medical, behavioral, social, public safety, workforce development, and judicial supports to the State of Alaska through contracts, compacts, and grants. The coalition represents **65,000 Alaskans and 100 communities** from Ketchikan to Kotzebue.*

