



ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS of ALASKA

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March 1, 2021

Senator Joshua Revak
Alaska State Capitol Building
120 4th Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Support for Senate Bill 23, Initiative Severability

Dear Senator Revak,

The Associated General Contractors of Alaska (AGC) is writing to express our support for Senate Bill 23, “An Act relating to proposing and enacting laws by initiative”.

AGC is a member organization representing the construction industry with over 600+ members statewide. We unite the construction industry to focus on balanced advancement and work to foster and promote constructive legislation, regulation and standards. Our commitment to advocacy ensures that our members’ voices are heard throughout the state on important issues affecting the construction industry.

AGC views SB 23 as a vehicle to bring clarity to the initiative process and restore the State’s appropriate role in vetting of initiatives. We also believe that SB 23 would result in fewer prolonged legal battles once ballot measure proponents understand that if any section of their initiative did not pass constitutional requisites, they would be required to revert to the signature gathering stage of the process. This should result in more carefully crafted ballot measures at the onset.

We believe SB 23 would maintain the integrity of the signature gathering process and ensure that the version of the initiative that is approved by Alaskans, who sign on as supporters, is the actual language that is presented in its final form to the voters. The courts should not be permitted to alter the language with material changes after submission by its sponsors and signers.

Thank you for putting forth SB 23 to ensure that language in a proposed initiative is unchanged from the language in the petition booklets of which were signed. We respectfully urge members support of SB 23.

Sincerely,

Alicia Siira