



February 22, 2022
Representative Zack Fields
House Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol
Juneau AK, 99801

Sent via email: Representative.Zack.Fields@akleg.gov

RE: House Bill 132 Version N

Dear Representative Fields,

Associated Builders and Contractors of Alaska ("ABC") is the voice of the Alaska construction industry, advocating the ideals of free enterprise, developing training for the workforce, and providing contractors the resources required to compete in the ever-changing environment.

ABC supports House Bill 132 version "N" known as the Alaska Apprenticeship Expansion Act.

ABC operates one of the largest apprentice programs in Alaska and views training as an important and integral part of Alaska's economy. Too often of late we see public entities debating policies that attempt to pick winners and losers among the various training opportunities available to Alaskans or steer training to one entity or another. ABC believes policy around training should promote all opportunities including all federally approved apprentice programs, on the job, and a robust vocational and technical option including in secondary education.

While ABC is neutral on the apprentice tax credit provisions, ABC supports passage of HB 132 and believe it is a responsible and positive step in promoting more training opportunity for Alaskans.

Thank you for your outreach to ABC and your partnership in working to promote training in Alaska.

Sincerely,



Alicia J. Maltby, President/CEO

Cc: Senator.Roger.Holland@akleg.gov