



February 11, 2026

RE: Letter of Support for HB 271 Kitchen Lights Unit Royalty Modification

Co-Chairs Representative Frier and Representative Dibert, House Resources Committee:

Maritime Helicopters (Maritime) submits this letter in support of HB 271, Kitchen Lights Unit (KLU) Royalty Modification. Maritime has served Alaska since 1973. Like Furie Operating Alaska, LLC (Furie), we are an Alaskan-owned small business servicing the Kenai Peninsula. As a long-standing local partner, we are committed to providing year-round jobs for Alaskans and contributing to the economic strength and long-term success of other Alaska businesses.

This bill only targets the Kitchen Lights Unit in Cook Inlet—the same Unit that has cost-effectively produced more natural gas for local utilities and the refinery. Furie demonstrated that by reducing the overall royalty burden on the Unit, more gas can be economically produced. The team doubled production and expanded well capacity on the Allegra Leigh Platform.

The bill will provide long-term fiscal stability to Furie, the operator of the KLU. The DNR issued a Best Interest Finding in February 2025 that temporarily reduced the State's royalty rate from 12.5% to 3%. The issue is that this temporary reduction can be rescinded by DNR.

As a local employer and long-standing industry partner, we recognize that stable and sustainable production in Cook Inlet directly supports Alaskan jobs, service providers, and small businesses like ours. Ensuring Furie's continued operations strengthens the broader economic ecosystem on the Kenai Peninsula and beyond.

For these reasons, Maritime Helicopters supports passage of HB 271.

Respectfully,

Robert Fell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Fell", is positioned above the typed name.

Chief Operations Officer  
Maritime Helicopters, Inc.  
3520 FAA Road  
Homer, AK 99603  
[bfell@maritimehelicopters.com](mailto:bfell@maritimehelicopters.com)  
Office: (907) 235-7771