SEAMARK

11471 Business Blvd Unit 206 Anchorage, Alaska 99577

February 12, 2025

To the 34th Alaska State Legislature:

I support the passage of House Bill 34, "An act establishing an Alaska Innovation Council," currently before the House Labor and Commerce Committee.

HB 34 solves two problems. First, it addresses the lack of coordination between state agencies, the university, RDCs, and other organizations with regards to technological innovation and economic development across Alaska. For too long, this lack of coordination has hampered efforts to commercialize cutting-edge research, retain high-growth startups, and attract investment to the state.

And second, HB 34 will encourage the adoption of smart, flexible, and fair policies to support emerging industries. By recommending policies to identify and expand research, promote development, and attract investment to the state, HB 34 ensures Alaska has a strong economic foundation for generations to come.

As a startup founder, venture investor, and former director of the Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation's Startup Accelerator, I am encouraged by the introduction of HB 34. If there is anything I can do to further support its passage, please feel free to contact me at <u>taylor@seamark.co</u>.

Very Respectfully,

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Taylor Drew Holshouser Co-founder of Seamark

CC:

Representative Ky Holland State Capitol Room 418 Juneau, AK 99801

gener8tor

Troy Vosseller 821 E Washington Ave, Ste 200-G Madison, WI 53703 troy@gener8tor.com

February 7, 2025

Honorable Members of the State of Alaska's 34th Legislature State Capitol Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Legislators,

As the Co-founder of gener8tor, a nationally recognized startup accelerator network that has helped 1,500+ startups grow and secure more than \$2.2B in funding, I strongly support House Bill 34, introduced by Representative Ky Holland. Establishing the Alaska Innovation Council is a necessary step to cultivate entrepreneurship, fuel economic growth and drive innovation in Alaska.

Since 2021, gener8tor has worked with Alaskan founders through the gBETA Alaska accelerator, helping 30 startups raise over \$5.5 million and create or sustain 91 jobs. Through this work, we have gained firsthand insight into the challenges and opportunities unique to Alaskan entrepreneurs, reinforcing the importance of a structured, statewide effort to support and scale innovation.

At gener8tor, we work with early-stage companies across diverse industries, guiding them from concept to scale. One critical factor in a startup's success is a strong support network—access to capital, mentorship, and infrastructure that fosters innovation. HB 34 directly addresses this need by assembling a council of experienced investors, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders to advise on best practices, enhance commercialization efforts, and promote capital formation in Alaska.

Alaska's unique industries present major growth opportunities. This council will help develop them while ensuring all entrepreneurs—rural and urban—have equitable access to resources. By fostering research commercialization, seed-stage funding, and startup ecosystem development, HB 34 paves the way for sustainable jobs and long-term economic prosperity.

I urge the Alaska legislature to support House Bill 34 and take a proactive stance in fostering innovation-driven economic development in Alaska. Thank you for your leadership and dedication to growing opportunities for entrepreneurs in Alaska.

Sincerely, Troy Vosseller Co-founder, gener8tor



Jacqueline Summers, Executive Director jacqueline@healthtie.org

January 30, 2025

The Honorable Ky Holland and The 34th Alaska Legislature House of Representatives Alaska State Capitol Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: House Bill 30 and 34: supporting Alaska entrepreneurs and the Alaska startup ecosystem

Dear Representative Holland and the 34th Alaska Legislature:

As Co-Founder of Health TIE, an Alaskan healthcare innovation hub, and a long-time participant in the Alaskan entrepreneurial community, I am in full support of your efforts, along with others, to increase resources for innovators, entrepreneurs, startups, and small businesses in Alaska.

Health TIE creates opportunities for innovators - both within Alaska and outside - to assist health and social service organizations reduce costs while improving access to care. Some of the successful pilot projects we've launched include:

- MapHabit, a program that assists with independence for those with Traumatic Brain Injuries, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and Alzheimer's and Dementia
- OpiAID, a technology that uses biometric data to assist those going through Opioid Disorder Treatment
- Pear Suite, a technology that helps Community Health Workers connect their clients to resources.

Healthcare innovators are passionate about solving difficult health and social challenges, but often face an uphill battle against inertia and bureaucracy. One of the best ways to invest in our communities is to invest in the projects and people who are driven to make them better.

After 20+ years supporting the entrepreneurial ecosystem, I can tell you creating spaces and opportunities for innovators to build their ideas pays off exponentially. If we want to invest in the future of Alaska, one of the best places to start is by helping those brave enough to put a new service, product, or company into the world.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued advocacy.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Jummers

Jacqueline Summers