

REGINALD J. BROWN

May 4, 2026

Via email senate.state.affairs@akleg.gov

Hon. Scott Kawasaki

Chair

Senate State Affairs Committee

State Capitol Room 119

Juneau AK, 99801

Via email senate.judiciary@akleg.gov

Hon. Matt Claman

Chair

Senate Judiciary Committee

State Capitol Room 429

Juneau AK, 99801

Via email house.judiciary@akleg.gov

Hon. Andrew Gray

Chair

House Judiciary Committee

State Capitol Room 118

Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Chairs Kawasaki, Claman and Gray:

I am writing today in support of Stephen Cox's nomination to serve as Attorney General of Alaska. I have known Steve for just over 25 years and can tell you with confidence that he is one of the most talented lawyers in America. Steve is also a humane and generous person with tremendous judgment and unwavering integrity. Alaska is fortunate that he has chosen to make the State his permanent home, and I can assure you that you will not regret a decision to confirm him as the State's top lawyer. Steve is a tenacious and resourceful advocate and his North Star will always be the interests and well-being of his clients, the citizens of Alaska.

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I want to start by acknowledging an obvious fact – I am not a member of the Alaska Bar and have not regularly practiced law in the State. As a result, there are some issues I cannot speak to with authority or an informed perspective. But I do know Steve far better than most and hope that you will find helpful my perspective about his record, character and judgment based on decades of close observation and engagement. I am a graduate of Harvard Law School and have been a member of the bar for just about 30 years. I am currently a Washington-based partner with one of the country's largest law firms. I have worked in private practice and in business and have also worked in the public sector at the local, state and federal levels, including serving for several years as Special Assistant and Associate Counsel to the President of the United States of America. While in private practice, I was privileged to lead teams working in support of the Obergefell Supreme Court decision regarding Marriage Equality and in support of passage of the federal Respect for Marriage Act. I have also worked pro bono on victim's rights, religious liberty and education reform issues at both the federal and state level.

I first met Steve when he served as a summer associate at WilmerHale in Washington DC in 2005. I was a partner at the firm, and was enthusiastic when Steve returned to work for us as a full time associate in 2008. Steve was an intellectual force early in his career and a thoughtful colleague in an environment where intellectual diversity and an open mind to novel arguments were valued traits. Steve brought those traits to bear in support of our business clients, and also showed an early and life-long commitment to pro bono representation of those in need. His work included immigration advocacy in support of a Mexican national wrongfully accused of drug offenses and an Iraqi interpreter whose heroic actions aided US troops during the second Gulf War. In both cases, the only thing that mattered for Steve was advocating for his clients as zealously as possible within the bounds of the law. I believe he'd bring that same energy to advocacy for Alaska's people.

I recognize that some concerns have been raised about Steve's commitment to upholding certain rights embedded in either the Alaska Constitution or cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court, particularly those relating to individual freedom. I do not share those concerns because I know that Steve believes deeply in the Rule of Law and principles of federalism, including foundational norms relating to stare decisis and reliance. I have listened carefully to Steve's testimony before the Legislature and know he will consistently and faithfully put principle before politics in support of the rights of all Alaskans, including the rights of women and same sex families. Stated simply, Steve will support and apply the law as it exists, and won't chase fanciful theories to avoid his duties.

You can be confident that Steve is a responsible steward of public authority by looking at his record as a U.S. Attorney and as Deputy Associate Attorney General of the United States. Steve is a champion not a crusader, and leads by listening not lecturing. His private sector work for Apache and Bristol Bay Industries has given him valuable perspective about the economic needs of the State, and his past experience in Washington, D.C., has armed him with the knowledge needed to navigate effectively on the State's behalf.

When Steve was first approached about taking on the role of Attorney General he sought my advice and counsel. Not once did he speak about advancing a partisan or ideological agenda. He spoke about the possibility of serving his State, about the impact of service on his family, and about his ability to be effective in the role. That is who Steve is. Someone who consistently prioritizes public service over private profit. A man who cares deeply about his family. And a leader who wants to make a difference in the roles he takes on. I hope you give him that opportunity, and would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. J. Brown".

Reginald J. Brown

Dylan Hitchcock-Lopez

From: Irene Quednow [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 8:15 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: Testimony in support of confirmation of Stephen Cox as Attorney General

Good morning committee members,

I am writing you this morning in support of the confirmation of Stephen Cox as Attorney General. I will get to his legal qualifications and experience in a minute, but one of the things I want to point out first that stands out to me is his commitment to Alaska: he is putting down roots for himself and his family, and most importantly, he has been involved in his community from the beginning.

Now to his legal qualifications and accomplishments: Mr. Cox brings a rare combination of high-level federal experience and practical execution. As a former United States Attorney and Deputy Associate Attorney General, he has managed complex civil and criminal matters and supervised large legal teams. why does this matter? Because legal decisions often carry statewide economic and public safety consequences.

Mr. Cox has a grounded, common sense, disciplined approach to issues. His record shows restraint in the use of government power and a clear commitment to the rule of law. At the same time, he understands how real-world systems function—from permitting and infrastructure to corporate compliance—which is critical in a state where legal uncertainty can stall development.

His experience and the above mentioned approach shows in his work here in Alaska. He has prioritized consumer protection, securing significant settlements and addressing deceptive practices that directly affect Alaskans. He has also strengthened coordination between state, local, and federal partners on public safety issues, focusing resources where they have the greatest impact.

For the reasons mentioned above, I respectfully urge you to confirm Stephen J. Cox as Alaska's Attorney General.

Thank you for your consideration.

Irene Quednow
Anchorage

"The world needs men (and women) who will not be bought or sold. Men (and women) who in their inmost souls are true and honest. Men (and women) who do not fear to call sin by its right name. Men (and women) whose conscience is true to duty. Men (and women) who will stand for what is right though the heavens fall." Ellen Gould White (words in parenthesis added by myself)

Dylan Hitchcock-Lopez

From: Amanda Faith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 5:43 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: Stephen Cox letter of support

Greetings committee members,

Please vote to recommend Stephen Cox to continue as Alaska's Attorney General.

I first met Mr. Cox at an educational event through my alma mater. He was gracious and showed a true care for Alaskan families and the complex issues that affect us.

His retail safety initiative has made a significant difference in my family. At the start of this school year, shopping at the midtown grocery stores in our neighborhood was a frightening experience. I had to stop bringing our exchange student along out of embarrassment and worry that she would experience something that would make her never want to return to Anchorage again.

Mr. Cox's actions to help address retail and public crimes has made a night to day difference. It is pleasant and safe to be in those stores again. I notice a lot of families from Bush Alaska and our diverse communities shopping there again. Even the retail clerks seemed at ease, and one told me that she enjoyed coming to her job again.

I am confident that as Attorney General, Mr. Cox will continue to address rule of law issues that affect my family and other Alaskans. Please recommend him for confirmation.

Best regards,
Amanda Thompson
D16, South Turnagain

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