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Rep. Genevieve Mina
State Capitol Room 420
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Representative Mina:

As a Korean American, the president of Korean Cultural Center Alaska (KCCA), and as an immediate past president of the Korean American Community of Anchorage, Inc (KACA), I am writing this letter in support of HJR 4, "Honoring the Alaska-Korea Relationship."

During many years of serving the community in various capacities, I realized more and more each year how tightly our communities are connected. As one of the most diverse cities in the country, we have many ethnic communities that make up our city, with well over 100 different languages spoken at home and many cultures and customs practiced. Despite the diversity, racial violence seen in other cities is largely absent. Instead, cultural diversity's beauty and richness shine through daily.

To maintain harmony, the Korean community has played a significant role in working with other communities. We carry on various activities and hold a number of community events throughout the year utilizing volunteers and donations. Some examples are Korea-Alaska Friendship Day, Multicultural Unity Conversations, Elder Law Seminar, Small Business/Nonprofit Seminar, Senior Academy, and Scholarship Day. The annual scholarship program, which is 100% funded by Korean entities, alone has paid out up to \$20,000 annually for the past 20 years and helped many students of all races.

Furthermore, many Korean Americans voluntarily take up community services as individuals using their own funds. Some of them were in the news: Insook Baek provided annually over 1,000 Thanksgiving meals for the past 15 years out of her gas station, and Mr. Kim's Food Truck served the hungry throughout the year for many years.

While younger people were busy at work, many Korean seniors went to work also. You could find a group of elders out at Ship Creek during the Spring Cleaning (until COVID came), and some of them at the Bean's Café.

These are only a few examples to give you an idea of what Korean Americans do in our community in appreciation of our state and our country.

Considering the important allied relationship, the major trade partnership between Korea and Alaska, and the positive contributions the Korean Americans, who love and appreciate Alaska, make every day in our community, I fervently urge the Legislature to pass HJR 4.

Sincerely,



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