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March 4, 2025

Rep Genevieve Mina Alaska Legislature Juneau, AK 99801

RE: HB26 Support

Dear Rep Mina:

AARP Alaska supports HB26 to improve community transit and rural alternative transportation option engagement and planning.

Many older adults wish to remain in their homes and communities as they age (aging in place). Accessible community transit helps them achieve this by providing reliable transportation, enabling them to live independently in familiar surroundings without needing to relocate to care facilities or rely on others for transportation.

As people age, they may lose the ability or desire to drive due to physical limitations, health conditions, or cognitive decline. Community transportation provides older adults with the freedom to travel independently, whether to medical appointments, social events, or other necessary destinations, allowing them to maintain a sense of autonomy.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation to improve the lives of older Alaskans and adults with disabilities.

Respectfully, Marge Stoneking Advocacy Director, AARP Alaska