



January 29, 2018

Senator Mia Costello
State of Alaska
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Costello,

Senate Concurrent Resolution 10, "Proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation," introduced by Senator Mia Costello, is an essential piece of legislation that promotes the idea of innovation and how it can enhance the economy. Innovation is evolving expeditiously and is constantly improving our quality of life. From technological advances, to generating new concepts and processes, innovation starts with the smallest of ideas.

Proclaiming a year of innovation inspires sectors of any economy to invent, create, and to do more with less. In an economic recession, sparking innovation is crucial to creating a sustainable environment. By creating new, contemporary solutions to problems in a community, growth and success can occur and flourish, resulting in long-term development. Collaboration between the public and private sectors of the economy creates an innovation community that is fundamental to the sustainability of any state.

I strongly urge the passage of this resolution, "Proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation," without hesitation as it will improve the lives of all Alaskans at every level of the economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Tucker".

Robert B. Tucker
CEO
Innovation Resource Consulting Group
Santa Barbara, California
United States of America



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

2016 - 2017
PNWER Executive Committee*

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*Partial listing

January 30, 2018

The Honorable Mia Costello
Senator
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 504
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Costello,

On behalf of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER), I offer PNWER's strong support for "Proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation" legislation introduced in the Alaska State Senate (Senate Concurrent Resolution 10).

This proclamation will designate 2019 as the Year of Innovation in Alaska. PNWER believes the competitive landscape of the global economy, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application. The 2019 Year of Innovation will be an opportunity to address many challenges our region faces. The PNWER Innovation, Workforce, Economic Development working groups and the University Presidents' Roundtable have all identified innovation as a critical driver for economic development.

The Pacific Northwest region must channel the strengths of its many separate resources into a collaborative, comprehensive effort that maximizes the economic benefits of regional innovation. The Year of Innovation will foster regional collaboration, highlight innovation and cultivate entrepreneurship in the state. PNWER is supportive of the legislation and encourages the Alaska Legislature to proclaim 2019 as the Year of Innovation in Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Morrison

Matt Morrison
Chief Executive Officer
PNWER



Larry D. Hinzman
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Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

P.O. Box 757270, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7270

4 February 2018

Senator Mia Costello
State Capitol, Rm 504
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Costello:

Thank you for your efforts in sponsoring Concurrent Resolution 10 proclaiming 2019 to be the Alaska Year of Innovation. I am the Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and I strongly encourage our legislature to support this resolution.

It has often been repeated that we cannot cut our way out of this down economy. We need innovation to build a stronger, more diversified, and sustainable economy. Innovation is how we can keep our best and brightest young minds in Alaska. Innovation must be a centerpiece of Alaska's future economy.

To get there, we must cultivate innovation. Many organizations around Alaska are already doing this, but proclaiming 2019 as the Year of Innovation brings additional attention and awareness of this essential path forward. As Vice Chancellor for Research, one of my duties is to oversee the Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization (OIPC). OIPC takes university research, finds ways to attract private sector interest, and then works to license or sell the innovations. OIPC fosters a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across our state. We welcome you to visit anytime to view the projects and programs we are promoting to help diversify and strengthen Alaska's economy.

We encourage Alaskans to support and strive to implement this resolution. We too will look for ways to collaborate with the legislature to support innovation and entrepreneurship in Alaska. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like us to provide any assistance in these efforts.

We hope all our legislators will acknowledge the importance of aggressively moving forward in promoting a prosperous economy. Concurrent Resolution 10 is one important step in that direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry D. Hinzman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Larry" and "D." on the first line and "Hinzman" on the second line.

Larry D. Hinzman
Vice Chancellor for Research

America's Arctic University

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