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**Governor Bill Walker
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February 8, 2018

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that would repeal the BIDCO loan assistance program.

A “BIDCO” is a person licensed by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to provide financial and management assistance to businesses. Under current law, the Department is required to examine a BIDCO annually and the cost for these examinations borne by the BIDCO. This bill would remove the requirement for an annual examination of a BIDCO, but continue to allow the Department to examine a BIDCO at any time. Repealing the annual schedule while leaving in place the ability to conduct these examinations when necessary to protect the public while removing unnecessary, burdensome, and costly requirements.

The bill would also repeal the BIDCO assistance program (AS 37.17), including the Alaska BIDCO fund. The assistance program has not been funded, since it has not been used, and is unnecessary and should be repealed.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Walker".

Bill Walker
Governor

Enclosure