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To: Honorable Members of the Alaska State Legislature
Thirty-Fourth Legislature - First Session
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

April 11, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support for House Joint Resolution No. 14

Dear Honorable Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

On behalf of Big Lake Community Council, I am writing to express our strong support for House Joint Resolution No. 14, introduced during the First Session of the Thirty-Fourth Alaska State Legislature. We commend the Legislature's efforts to address critical infrastructure needs that benefit communities across our state, and we believe this resolution represents a vital step forward in supporting Alaska's economic growth and resilience.

Big Lake Community Council recognizes the importance of strategic infrastructure investments, such as those potentially outlined in HJR 14, to enhance connectivity, bolster economic opportunities, and ensure the safety and prosperity of Alaskans. While our community does not directly border the Arctic, we understand the statewide significance of projects like the proposed deep draft Arctic port in Nome, which could serve as a model for similar initiatives. Such developments promise to improve access to resources, facilitate commerce, and strengthen Alaska's position in national and international markets—benefits that ripple outward to communities like ours in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

We urge the Alaska Congressional delegation to pursue all available federal funding opportunities to support this initiative, as outlined in the resolution. Additionally, we encourage the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to collaborate closely with local governments and stakeholders to ensure the implementation of such projects aligns with needs and priorities of Alaska's diverse regions. Big Lake Community Council stands ready to support these efforts through advocacy and partnership, recognizing that infrastructure improvements in one part of the state can uplift us all.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to advancing Alaska's future. We respectfully request that this letter be entered into the record as part of the legislative proceedings for House Joint Resolution No. 14.

Sincerely,

Jodi Riddell
President, Big Lake Community Council