

Stuart Relay

From: Martha Raynolds [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 1, 2026 7:22 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: more oversight for AIDEA - HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To the House State Affairs committee,

I strongly support HB 124. AIDEA has been run as an organization with no accountability to the public. We need to have some effective means of reining it in when it starts spending large sums of public money on projects that have little public support.

HB124, by changing the way commissioners are appointed, requiring legislative confirmation, is a good first step. Requiring legislative approval to spend more than \$10 million seems fiscally prudent. Requiring meaningful opportunities for public input is also important. Financial accountability to the Legislature is key. Then we'll actually know what AIDEA is doing, rather than having to guess.

Sincerely,
-- Martha Raynolds
+-----+
Martha Raynolds

Stuart Relay

From: Sidney Stephens [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 5:49 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I am writing in favor of passage of HB. 124 because it attempts to correct the existing flawed process regarding development of the Ambler Road.

It broadens the makeup of the board by increasing the number of public members and environmental advocates. It requires legislative approval and public hearings, and it creates stricter influence regarding conflicts of interest.

Sincerely,
Sidney Stephens, Fairbanks

Stuart Relay

From: Maddie Halloran [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 11:04 AM
To: House State Affairs
Cc: Rep. Ashley Carrick
Subject: HB 124 - Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on HB 124 this week. I support this bill, and agree with the bill sponsor statement that while we need economic development to continue in our state, AIDEA is in great need of additional guardrails to ensure they are acting in the public's best interest. I wanted to send along a few recent articles from reporter Dermot Cole to include in the record.

AIDEA releases a promotional brochure, claiming this is the \$250,000 economic study kept secret for two years

<https://www.dermotcole.com/reportingfromalaska/2026/1/27/91j28821i7d2tt7462p8q2q5w7p9ej>

Legislators need to demand today to see report AIDEA buried two years ago

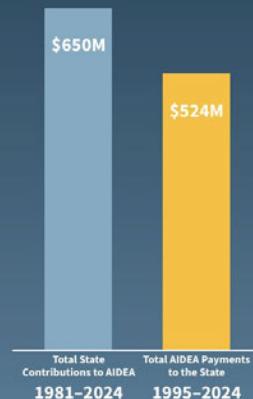
<https://www.dermotcole.com/reportingfromalaska/2026/1/27/03m8b4l0gj5bf8xx6f929k0eod34q1>

This is the link to the report AIDEA has made public, which is a 16-page executive summary, and not the full report. I urge you to request the full report be released publicly, as AIDEA spent public funds on it. I would also like to highlight this graphic on page 14 (screenshot below). It shows that the “big dividends” AIDEA always refers to are \$126 million *less* than the amount of money the state has provided to AIDEA, meaning AIDEA's direct returns are a net negative to the state. This Northern Economics report was commissioned by AIDEA in response to this series of analyses by economists Milt Barker and Gregg Erickson, which showed that AIDEA has not only mostly failed to create jobs or wisely invest state funds, it has cost Alaskans billions of dollars.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this bill, and have a great day!

Maddie Halloran

Cumulative State Contributions and Cumulative AIDEA Payments to the State



AIDEA has received a total of \$650.2 million from the state of Alaska over the last 44 years from Fiscal Year (FY) 1981 to FY 2024. Of this total, \$350.1 Million (54%) came in the form of assets/liabilities and pre-existing loans issued by State of Alaska entities other than AIDEA, and \$300.1 Million (46%) in the form of direct appropriations from the Alaska Legislature. In addition, AIDEA development activities have resulted in grants and capital contributions of \$220.3

million from entities other than the state of Alaska including the federal government. In FY 1995, AIDEA provided a \$60 Million "Return on Capital" to the state of Alaska's General Fund. Beginning in FY 1997 and every year since then, AIDEA has provided the state an annual dividend that has averaged \$16.6 million per year. From FY1995 to FY2024, AIDEA has contributed a total of \$524 Million to the state.

Note that while not quantified here, all AIDEA's payments to the state get put into the general fund and are redistributed, generating additional economic activity/multiplier effects.

All dates are shown by Fiscal Year (July 1 to June 30)

14



Maddie Halloran
Alaska State Director

alaskawild.org



Stuart Relay

From: darleen masiak [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 8:37 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 Accountability Act

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

For decades I have wanted AIDEA to be more accountable to the people of our state. Please pass this bill. darleen masiak 309 Narrow View Lane, Fairbanks, AK 99712

Stuart Relay

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 7:23 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 AIDEA Accountability Act

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

We support HB 124 the AIDEA Accountability Act. It would increase transparency and ensure public money is spent **in the public interest. Case in point**, AIDEA is pushing the Ambler Road while operating with little public oversight and accountability. Millions of the state budget and taxes are being wasted every year on AIDEA's priorities without oversight. This has to change.

Thank you,

Robin Dale Ford

Pat Fitzgerald

[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, AK 99710
[REDACTED]

Stuart Relay

From: Courtney Moore [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 5:24 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

I am speaking as a constituent, not on behalf of the organization I work for. I am in support of HB124. Aidea is seemingly a weird middleman slush fund. There should be more oversight and accountability with our money. How much have they lost? How much has the state put back into Aidea? Where's the hundred thousand dollar report they commissioned? All I have seen is a 12-page glossy pamphlet but no report! I'd like to see actual environmentalists or Indigenous people on the board. I've tried to attend Aidea meetings that are "public" but they rarely open up the zoom or put phone calls through. I've sat on the phone for 30 min before waiting for them to start the meeting and then it always just hangs up on me.

Thank you Rep. Carrick for introducing this bill and hope the state affairs committee will advance this bill to the next stage of discussion.

Courtney Moore

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, Ak. 99501

Stuart Relay

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 5:19 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB124 testimony

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I support HB 124. As a born and raised Alaskan I believe it is pertinent that Alaskans have a voice in how our natural resources are developed and distributed.

HB124 would ensure that AIDEA, as a state-funded corporation (using tax-payers dollars) would be more accountable to the Alaskan public. AIDEA has a terrible track record of loosing money and acting against public interest. This bill helps ensure that the economy and livelihoods of Alaskans is improved now and into future generations.

Thank you,

Glenna Gannon
Fairbanks, Ak

Stuart Relay

From: Bremner Nickisch [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:48 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Bremner Nickisch and I live in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA accountability act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and more fiscal responsibility of AIDEA.

I hope you'll take my support into consideration.

Bremner Nickisch

Stuart Relay

From: sheree and charlie [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:23 PM
To: House State Affairs; Rep. Ashley Carrick
Cc: Rep. Maxine Dibert; Sen. Scott Kawasaki
Subject: Ambler Road

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Rep. Carrick,

We are opposed to the Ambler road project. The roll back of the 2024 RMP by Pres Trump has opened the way for this road and the destruction of ecosystems, habitat, subsistence lifestyle and an amazing public asset. AIDEA is allowed to operate outside of the Alaska constitution and misuse public funds without transparency and oversight. Vote for HB 124.

Thank You,

Sheree Dohner and Charles Simmons
[REDACTED]

Fairbanks, AK.
[REDACTED]

Stuart Relay

From: Lauren Cusimano [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 4:11 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support for HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Lauren Cusimano, and I live in Anchorage. I am emailing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act.

Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance.

Thank you so much.

—
Lauren Cusimano
she/her/hers
laurencusimano.com

I live and work on Dena'ina etnena in Dgheyey Kaq'/Anchorage.

Stuart Relay

From: Kelly Barker [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:54 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support for House Bill 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Kelly Barker and I live in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance. AIDEA has a history of non viable projects, wasting of public funds that end up causing Alaskans to have smaller dividend checks, and refusing public input despite being a state funded corporation.

I hope that my support of HB 124 will be taken into consideration.

Thank you,

Kelly Barker

Stuart Relay

From: Kai'ler Sato [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:43 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Kai'ler and I live in Alaska. I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance. AIDEA has a history of non viable projects, wasting of public funds that end up causing Alaskans to have smaller dividend checks, and refusing public input despite being a state funded corporation.

I hope that my support of HB 124 will be taken into consideration.

Thank you,

Kai'ler

Stuart Relay

From: Sarah Hobson | [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:34 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good afternoon,

My name is Sarah Hobson and I live in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance. AIDEA has a history of non viable projects, wasting of public funds that end up causing Alaskans to have smaller dividend checks, and refusing public input despite being a state funded corporation.

I hope that my support of HB 124 will be taken into consideration.

Thank you,

Sarah Hobson

Stuart Relay

From: Paul Forward [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:28 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

I am a lifelong Alaskan hunter, angler, father and rural family doctor working in Kotzebue. I am strongly in favor of some increased oversight over AIDEA and I think HB124 is a good next step to help create balance and both environmental and economical oversight.

Thank you,

Paul Forward

Stuart Relay

From: Erica Watson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:27 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Fwd: HB 124 AIDEA Accountability Act

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Legislators,

My name is Erica Watson, and I live in the Denali Borough, zip code 99755. I'm writing to express my support for HB 124. I'm so grateful to see some legislative action on reining in this grossly irresponsible entity which has seemingly been given complete freedom to spend public money on its bad ideas for years. I look forward to better transparency and oversight on where our money goes.

Thank you,

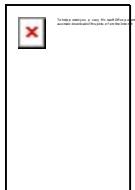
Erica Watson

--

Erica R. Watson

she/her

[Ghosts of Distant Trees](#) available now from Porphyry Press



ericarobinwatson.com

907.687.8248

Denali Park, AK

Stuart Relay

From: Melis Coady <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:17 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Written Testimony on HB 124
Attachments: HB 124 SRC Testimony 29Jan26.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Chair and Members of the House State Affairs Committee,

Attached please find written testimony submitted on behalf of the Susitna River Coalition regarding House Bill 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act, for inclusion in the committee record.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our perspective and experience.

Respectfully,

Melis Coady
Executive Director
Susitna River Coalition



Stuart Relay

From: Kayci Hanson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:26 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Kayci Hanson and I live in Ninilchik, Alaska. I am emailing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance. I strongly urge you to support HB 124.

Thank you for your time,

Kayci Hanson

Stuart Relay

From: Sharon Hildebrand [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:14 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support of HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

January 29, 2026

RE: Support of HB 124

To Whom It May Concern:

Hi, my name is Sharon Hildebrand a constituent within the State of Alaska and living in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am emailing to let my legislators know that I am in support of HB 124.

This letter is in response to House Bill 124 in the Alaska State Legislature, which meant to create better government oversight and hold AIDEA accountable, including a better public process so that AIDEA will listen to all Alaskans and Mega projects are not forced into our backyard and public process is followed.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions: 907-388-1453.

Kind Regards,

Please let me know if you have any questions, I can be reached here or at 907-388-1453, thank you.

Masee' (Thank You),
Sharon Hildebrand
Vice President
Tanana Chiefs Conference | [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | www.tananachiefs.org

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to which they are addressed.

Stuart Relay

From: Rebecca Siegel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:09 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To whom it may concern,
My name is Rebecca Siegel. I live in Fairbanks. I am emailing to express my support of HB 124. AIDEA has run unchecked for too long.
Cheers,
Rebecca Siegel

Stuart Relay

From: Shelby Bowling [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:07 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 SUPPORT COMMENT

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Shelby Bowling and I live in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance. AIDEA has a history of non viable projects, wasting of public funds that end up causing Alaskans to have smaller dividend checks, and refusing public input despite being a state funded corporation.

I hope that my support of HB 124 will be taken into consideration.

Thank you,
Shelby Bowling

Stuart Relay

From: Amanda Bremner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:05 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello, my name is Amanda Bremner, I live in Anchorage, Alaska and my family is from Yakutat, Alaska. I am writing this email to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance.

AIDEA does not represent Alaskans, and the needs from Indigenous communities. Their projects, like Ambler Road do not benefit public interest; it would significantly disrupt the culture and way of life for my relatives who still rely on the land for food. HB 124, is a bill that would ensure that AIDEA acts within Public Interest and I fully support the passage of this bill.

Gunalchéesh,
Kaa Saayí Tláa
Amanda Bremner

Kugaagastee
Let it be.

Stuart Relay

From: Libby Musolino [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:03 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support of House Bill 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

I am writing to support House Bill 124. Ensuring that the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority is held more accountable to the public will benefit all of us living here. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Libby Musolino

Stuart Relay

From: Ellen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:53 PM
To: Sen. Robert Myers; Rep. Frank Tomaszewski; House State Affairs
Subject: Please oppose the ambler road project.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Representatives,

I'm writing to ask you to oppose the Ambler Road project. This 211-mile industrial road through pristine wilderness would cause serious harm to Alaska and its people.

1. The Ambler Road threatens what makes Alaska special. It would cut through Gates of the Arctic National Preserve, destroying wildlife habitat and disrupting caribou migration routes that Alaska Native communities depend on for food. These communities have opposed this road because it threatens their way of life.
2. AIDEA, the agency pushing this project, has a history of poor financial decisions that waste taxpayer money. They consistently lose money and invest in projects that don't help Alaska's economy. The Ambler Road would cost hundreds of millions of dollars with no guarantee of return, while the environmental damage would be permanent.
3. This road primarily benefits outside mining companies, not Alaskans. The minerals would be exported, giving us the costs and environmental destruction while others get the profits.
4. Alaska's wilderness and subsistence resources are irreplaceable. Once destroyed, they're gone forever. We need legislative oversight to stop projects like this that waste public money while damaging our land, wildlife, and Native communities.

Please vote to stop the Ambler Road and support increased accountability for AIDEA through bills like HB 124.

Thank you for representing Alaska's true interests.

Sincerely,
Your constituent and fellow Alaskan.

Stuart Relay

From: Jelly Firmin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:52 PM
To: House.state.affairs@akleg.org; House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 Accountability Act Support

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Greetings Alaska Legislature Members,

My name is Angelica and I am a lifelong resident of Alaska who lives in Anchorage. I am emailing to express my utmost support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Increasing transparency and strengthening oversight will benefit Alaskans. Alaskans deserve to know what is happening in our state. I particularly commend the requirement of holding public hearings and garnering legislative approval for projects over \$10million, as proposed in HB 124.

Thank you representative Carrick for introducing this bill.

Thank you for your time,
Angelica

Stuart Relay

From: Tim [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:43 PM
To: House State Affairs
Cc: Tim
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

HB 124 (The AIDEA Accountability Act) should pass.
Wherever public funds are spent, there should be full accountability.

Tim Quintal
[REDACTED]

Fairbanks, AK 99712
[REDACTED]

Stuart Relay

From: Jayme Dittmar [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:35 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Advance HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

My name is Jayme Dittmar and I am a resident and business owner in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act.

AIDEA plays a powerful role in financing major development projects across Alaska, and with that power should come strong transparency, public oversight, and accountability to the people of this state. Decisions involving public money and long-term impacts on our land, communities, and resources need to happen with clear processes, legislative involvement, and meaningful public input.

One of my concerns has been how AIDEA-backed projects, including efforts connected to the Ambler industrial road have moved forward with limited transparency and without broad public support. I believe projects of this scale and impact must be subject to stronger oversight and clear accountability standards. AIDEA has specifically wasted millions on this speculative road, without the support of the people it will impact most.

HB 124 is an important step toward ensuring that AIDEA's decision-making process reflects the interests of Alaskans — not outside corporations or special interests — and that public funds are spent responsibly, transparently, and in ways that benefit our communities.

I urge you to support and advance HB 124.

Thank you,

Jayme Dittmar

--
Jayme Dittmar
Film/Photography
northexposurestudios.com



Stuart Relay

From: Sonny Ahkivgak [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:33 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB124 Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sonny Ahkivgak and I'm an Iñupiaq woman in Fairbanks, AK. I am emailing to express my support for HB124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. We need to have more oversight over AIDEA, as they have a long history of not having true repair and care when environmental harms are caused by projects they oversee. Alaskans deserve greater transparency and responsible fiscal governance. AIDEA needs to hold Alaskans' best interests.

Thank you,
Sonny Ahkivgak

Stuart Relay

From: Lauryn Baldwin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:21 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support for HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Lauryn Lucille Ulaaq Baldwin, and I live in Anchorage, but my family is from Kotzebue and Kiana, Alaska. I am writing this email to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA accountability act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance.

AIDEA does not represent Alaskans, and needs from Indigenous communities. Their projects, like Ambler Road (a proposed private access road), do not benefit public interest; it would significantly disrupt the culture and way of life for my relatives who still rely on the land for food. HB 124, is a bill that would ensure that AIDEA acts within Public Interest and I fully support the passage of this bill.

Kindest Regards,

Lauryn Ulaaq Baldwin

Stuart Relay

From: Jacqueline Muehlbauer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:11 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Public Comment in Support of HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act.

I support HB 124 because transparency and accountability are essential when public entities are entrusted with significant financial authority. AIDEA plays an important role in Alaska's economic development, and that role should be balanced with clear oversight and meaningful public and legislative involvement—especially for large-scale projects that carry substantial financial risk.

HB 124 strengthens public trust by ensuring that major AIDEA investments receive appropriate review and scrutiny. Requiring legislative approval for high-dollar projects does not prevent development; rather, it ensures that decisions involving public resources reflect statewide priorities and long-term fiscal responsibility. Alaskans deserve confidence that these investments are carefully evaluated and openly discussed.

Strong economic development and strong accountability are not mutually exclusive. HB 124 helps align AIDEA's actions with the public interest and reinforces responsible governance. I urge you to support this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jacqueline Muehlbauer

Fairbanks

Stuart Relay

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:06 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support for HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Sasha. I am from Pilot Point, AK. Currently living in Anchorage.

I am in support of HB 124; the AIDEA Accountability Act. AIDEA has been trying to push Ambler Road through without proper consent from the community, or adequate cultural and environmental research. The BLM calls this project a "food security disaster."

AIDEA has been receiving state funding for this project, which is a PRIVATE ACCESS ROAD with minerals going to foreign investors. This private road does not benefit public interest. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal governance.

Thank you for your time and I hope you act quickly to hold AIDEA accountable to the state and communities most impacted by their work.

Sasha Kramer

Stuart Relay

From: Alicia O'Brien [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:53 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: AIDEA ACCOUNTABILITY

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Alicia and I live in Anchorage, AK. I'm reaching out to express my support for HB124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight and responsible fiscal governance.

Thank you.

Stuart Relay

From: Rachel Seine [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:50 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Rachel Seine, and I live in Wasilla. I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight, and responsible fiscal government.

Thank You

-Rachel Seine

Stuart Relay

From: Margi Dashevsky [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:48 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 Comment in support of AIDEA Reform Bill

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear House State Affairs committee,

I'm a mom with two small children and am unable to call in so am submitting the following updates on my previous comments from 2022 included below.

In the time since I submitted those comments below AIDEA has been continuing to provide little notice and does not take public input seriously despite telling the legislature that they do (55:57 in [recording](#)).

I'm extremely concerned with AIDEA's obstruction of public input and incompetence. I've repeatedly been unable to testify during AIDEA board meetings. This happened three times in the just the past year.

During Randy Rauro's presentation to a Joint State Affairs Committee on Apr. 1, 2025 he said "It's interesting, we don't get many people showing up to provide public comment" (47:56 in [recording](#)). What he did not say is that there were many people, including myself, who called in to testify and were prevented from doing so due to a "tech glitch." They invited us to try again at the next board meeting, which I tried to do but was not permitted to I even though I went in person. I was told I couldn't talk about things not on that meeting's agenda, even though the topic I was there to speak about was in fact on the agenda.

The absolute most egregious experience I had was on April 16, 2025 when I tried twice on the phone and twice in person and once again was unable to provide my public comment. Let me paint the picture: I was very pregnant and had just dropped my older child at preschool early so I could call in from the parking lot at 9am on the dot while I drove to the AIDEA office...I was unable to comment from the phone or in person despite trying twice both ways and I still have not received any response to my direct question regarding if there is still a Department of Law representative providing oversight of AIDEA board meetings.

Meanwhile AIDEA has continued to approve millions of dollars in public funds on projects that do not have any proven economic value to Alaskans.

AIDEA does not have authority to spend Alaskans' money however they want.

The state legislature needs to exercise its constitutional right to oversee AIDEA's spending decisions.

Sincerely,
Margi Dashevsky

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margi Dashevsky [REDACTED]

Date: Tue, Mar 29, 2022 at 4:44 PM

Subject: HB 271 Comment in support of AIDEA Reform Bill

To: <House.State.Affairs@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Andi.Story@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Sarah.Vance@akleg.gov>, <Representative.James.Kaufman@akleg.gov>, <Representative.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to elaborate on my verbal testimony just now. I'm a lifelong Alaskan and I support HB 271 and encourage you to further strengthen it by adding amendments to address AIDEA's board's illegal overuse of executive sessions.

AIDEA has a terrible track record of violating the Open Meetings Act and has only recently made superficial changes with increased scrutiny. Some examples of AIDEA's complete disregard of public process include: In 2020, the AIDEA board spent 68% of their meetings in executive session. On three occasions, the board spent over 80% of the meeting in executive session. This was up from 2019 when the AIDEA board spent about half of their meetings in executive session. An average of 2-5 days of public notice is not nearly adequate for public decisions of the magnitude and political nature that AIDEA continues to make.

This changes proposed in HB 271 are necessary to ensure that going forward AIDEA play's to its historical strengths as a lender and focuses on issuing loans and bonds for small locally owned businesses and stops making politically-driven investments in which they are the owner and operator of politically controversial projects like the proposed Ambler and West Susitna roads and the leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Oversight is especially needed to ensure AIDEA board member interests aren't swaying their decisions. For example businesses associated with 3 AIDEA Board Members and One Staffer received >\$400,000 in CARES Act Grants. Two AIDEA board members running for public office received \$36,000 in donations from the Energy And Natural Resources Industry. AIDEA board members have donated tens of thousands of dollars to politicians that pushed for oil and gas extraction.

It often appears that the AIDEA board has already made its mind up before they even receive public comments. Public input must inform their decision-making and instead AIDEA it appears that AIDEA is merely conducting damage control and PR, which is not an honest public process. I have personally experienced this numerous times testifying at countless meetings over the last few years.

My first AIDEA board meeting experience was in the early days of the pandemic - AIDEA only gave 3 days' notice for the meeting March 27, 2020 during which AIDEA Board Chair, Dana Pruhs abruptly ended public testimony of people opposing the Ambler Road by saying, "I don't give a shit." The AIDEA board went on to approve \$35 million on the Ambler Road and deny [\\$2.5 million for Alaska's blood bank](#). My second AIDEA meeting was on Dec 23 just before christmas when with less than 48 hours notice I called in despite my power being out due to 80mph winds. I subsequently co-authored two opeds [AIDEA, Alaskans are watching](#) and [AIDEA must diversify Alaska's economy for a resilient future](#).

Lastly, I am forwarding the public comment I submitted to the AIDEA board below to provide specific examples of my experiences of their egregious public process.

Sincerely,
Margi Dashevsky

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margi Dashevsky [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, Aug 11, 2021 at 3:23 PM

Subject: Public Comment Re: G21-24

To: publiccomment <publiccomment@aidea.org>

Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority

RE: RESOLUTION NO. G21-24

Dear AIDEA Staff and Board,

In reviewing the Public Engagement Presentation for your upcoming board meeting I was concerned because there is no mention of your illegal overuse of executive session. The State of Alaska's Open Meetings Act, which requires that decisions made and actions taken by a public entity like AIDEA are public knowledge and genuinely represent the will of the Alaskan public that AIDEA serves. Glossing over a problem doesn't make it go away; changing your operating procedures and real life practices might start to address AIDEA's history of misallocated and secretive investments. Similarly, launching a Public Relations campaign won't make the Green Bank successful; meaningful and genuine stakeholder engagement, which AIDEA has sorely lacked and even scorned in the past, might.

I was pleased to see your first point on slide 4 that a key purpose of public engagement is to "build trust and create stronger relationships." I am heartened by the personal responses I received from Alan Weitzner regarding to a previous public comment and the opportunity to meet with AIDEA's communication director, Colleen Bryan, about my concerns but pointed, executive level attention after heightened public scrutiny and months of comments doesn't address the serious problems with AIDEA's current and past operations.

This novel responsiveness does go a very long way but does not assuage my objection to the actions that AIDEA has taken and continues to take without addressing the public input you have received. A great way to remedy my concern would be to publicly share documentation of AIDEA's use or rejection of factual and other substantive public comments in its project analysis and decisionmaking process. Furthermore, AIDEA needs to implement policies, practices, and bylaws for a robust public process and how it will be conducted so that for example the public knows what you discuss in executive session.

On slide 5, I appreciate that you want to better understand your audience but the purpose of familiarizing yourself with stakeholder values, priorities, and concerns should not be to inform "messaging" (this is public relations). The purpose of gathering this information should be to improve decisions and project outcomes (this is public process as the law requires: actual, genuine public engagement)!

On slide 7, you claim that "Deliberation and action by AIDEA's Board occurs during public session; no decisions are made during executive session" and that "agendas with supporting documentation are posted seven days prior to the next meeting" which has absolutely not been my experience. Historically, AIDEA has been notoriously obtuse and has only recently made changes with increased scrutiny. For example, much of your deliberation on the Arctic Refuge leases occurred in private and the December 23, 2020 meeting was announced with less than 2 days' notice. You also only gave 3 days' notice for the March 27, 2020 meeting when you decided to spend \$35 million on the Ambler Road.

Can you please clarify for me "all steps occurring in the decision-making process" because clearly there's a lot that is decided upon before, during, and after board meetings that the public is absolutely not privy to and do not represent the will of the Alaskan public. I had hoped to be able to comment on the next steps of Arctic Refuge seismic process at this board meeting but it's not on the agenda and instead you've already issued a press release stating your intent to award the contract to SAE. This press release once again does not address any of the public comments in opposition that you have received. When will there be future opportunities for public engagement with regard to the Arctic Refuge or has AIDEA met its public engagement quota for this project already?

That majority of what you propose on slide 8 for next steps sounds like one directional sharing of information about AIDEA's projects. if it's not a two-way exchange then you will continue to fail to "represent the will of the public" that AIDEA ultimately must serve.

I've said this before: it often appears that the AIDEA board has already made its mind up before you receive public comments. If this is the case then you're not actually using public input to inform your decision-making which is illegal and you will are merely conducting damage control and PR--not honest public process. To this point I'm including excerpts from FOUR previous comments below.

Respectfully,
Margi Dashevsky

6/22/21

I am dismayed that once again I am scrambling at the last minute to convey vital information. 5 days is the bare minimum and way too short notice for any meaningful public engagement. Large scale, long term projects like planning for and permitting a seismic program in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge are of global importance and warrant at least thirty days advance notice. Furthermore, there should be a way to sign up to receive notifications for when the website is updated as a courtesy so we don't have to keep checking back.

Spending of \$1.5million now is eerily reminiscent of when you allocated \$35M for Ambler Road in the height of the Pandemic. Alaska can't afford to waste money on a suspended lease especially given the impending government shut down and 15k state employees just received pink slips!

It is unacceptable that you do not even acknowledge in the 300+ email comments, and on 12/23/20 heard from 39 testifiers all in opposition to bidding on leases except 1.

5/18/21

The proposed Energy Independence Program & Fund can be a powerful engine to diversify Alaska's economy and is clearly aligned with AIDEA's scope and mission, however I am concerned that greater transparency and accountability are necessary to ensure success.

For example, public process is a key element to ensure robust management. I encourage you to establish and implement policies and procedures that require 30 days notice for public comment on resolutions and a publicly available document showing AIDEA's record of its use or rejection of factual or other substantive public comments. I also encourage minimizing the extensive time AIDEA spends in non-public discussions and providing detailed statements describing the basis for and outcomes from each Executive Session.

1/12/21

There is a disconnect between what you said and what you did. Before voting unanimously to pass resolution No. G20-31 AIDEA board members said that they listened to, read, and some even agreed with public comments (which were 98% in opposition). However, there was no honest consideration to any alternative to the resolution on the table. AIDEA board member statements made it clear that your minds were made up well ahead of the hearing. This disconnect between your words and your actions continued when you bid on 11 tracts and ultimately spent \$12,018,825 on Arctic Refuge leases.

I and other members of the Alaskan public, not to mention countless concerned stakeholders across the US and world, are listening very closely to you and it does not appear you have extended the same courtesy to us. During your meeting tomorrow please reconcile this disconnect between your actions and words. Show us that you are listening and acting in good faith.

12/22/20

AIDEA's disregard for the public process is egregious! The draft resolution was released to the public, under pressure, only two days before this meeting, which further fails to serve Alaska's public process. Meeting to discuss and vote on this important and far-reaching resolution in the hours leading up to the Christmas holiday is irresponsible.

Furthermore, to spend \$20 million of taxpayer dollars on such a contentious and hotly-contested issue, in such haste, without reasonable notice, and without forethought of the consequences, fails to serve the public's best interest and fails to meet Governor Dunleavy's commitment - to restore the people's trust in our government.

Finally, my power has been out today due to 80mph winds. The current storm in Southcentral has taken down power in multiple communities during the only 7 hours to submit a written comment during an already prohibitively tight timeframe.

--

Dena'inaq etnen'aq' gheshntu ch'q'u yeshdu.

I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina.

Translation by Joel Isaak and Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart

--

Dena'inaq etnen'aq' gheshntu ch'q'u yeshdu.

I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina.

Translation by Joel Isaak and Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart

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Dena'inaq etnen'aq' gheshntu ch'q'u yeshdu.

I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina.

Translation by Joel Isaak and Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart

Stuart Relay

From: Katie Sanders [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:42 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I am wholeheartedly in favor of there being more accountability of AIDEA's activities and would support the passing of this bill.

Katie Sanders
Registered voter from Fairbanks
Sent from my iPhone

Stuart Relay

From: Alyssa Quintyne [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:40 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support for HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good afternoon,
To the House Affairs Committee -

My name is Alyssa Quintyne. I'm a resident Fairbanks.
I'm elated to email in support of HB 124. This bill will finally place necessary transparency, accountability, and oversight into the structure and process of AIDEA in the public assets, or projects that impact the public.

Both AIDEA's Board and Presidents, for too long, has side-stepped required public testimony and accountability in the sales of different development projects and sales, when questioned about their board and president, and overtly committed discriminatory actions during public and private meetings. They do this because they know they can get away with it, and it is unconscionable. Because they are a private entity, they aren't, and don't have to be responsible to the very Alaskans they directly benefit and exploit from. Both the legislature and constituents have no seat at the table in AIDEA, yet they decide what can happen and can be sold in our neighborhoods, trails, rivers.

No private entity should get to make very public decisions without public representation, participation, or oversight and consent from the public and our representative government. Nothing without us, is for us.
HB 124 puts necessary oversight in place, and shares the transparency and responsibility between AIDEA, the legislature, and the people - as it should always have been. This way, public transparency, representation, and participation, legal resources and compliance, and collective resource needs and concerns that constituents have can be prioritized and start to be on the same page.

It is long past to due that AIDEA be held accountable and responsible to Alaska, and not just themselves. So I ask the committee, help your constituents and this legislative body be able to do so.
Approve HB 124.

Thank you,

~ Alyssa

Stuart Relay

From: Andrés Javier Camacho <[REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:32 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Fwd: Comment on HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To the House State Affairs Committee,

I'm writing to express my support for HB 124 which I think will bring much needed accountability to AIDEA. I think this is needed because I have found it hard to interface with AIDEA in the past and to weigh in on how they use public resources. Their dedication to using funds for the Ambler road, in spite of local opposition makes me skeptical about how AIDEA is planning on creating public benefit. I think we need more oversight when AIDEA directs large sums of money. They should be responsive to the will of the people. I especially like the measures in the bill that aim to minimize conflicts of interest and that add public seats to the board.

Thank you,
Andrés Camacho
Douglas, AK

Stuart Relay

From: Mary Calmes [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:23 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

HB 124 AIDEA Accountability Act is definitely a step in the right direction to ensure accountability, transparency, and oversight on the spending of public monies.

Vote for HB 124.

Mary Calmes
Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

Mary Calmes
[REDACTED]

Laughter: The tangible evidence of hope.

Stuart Relay

From: Jenna Hooley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:15 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

I am a resident of Indian, AK, and I am writing to express my support for HB 124, the AIDEA accountability Act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, oversight and fiscal responsibility with the resources of our state. Please pass this bill so that decisions reflect public interest, not just industry interests.

Thanks for your time.

Jenna Hooley

Stuart Relay

From: Jennifer Adams <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 1:12 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: No Ambler Road

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Alaska State House:

I am writing to oppose the Amber Road project. I am originally from Allakaket Alaska which is in an area that will be directly affected by this project.

I have no desire to see mining companies from Canada and Australia come in and extract our resources. This type of extraction never benefits Alaska's Indigenous or rural populations.

AIDEA wastes millions of Alaska taxpayer dollars and there is almost nothing to show for it.

The creation of this road would bisect critical animal, habitats and culturally significant indigenous land, bringing pollution and destruction to areas that have existed without human intervention for thousands of years.

Do not continue down this harmful route. It doesn't benefit Alaskans.

Jennifer Adams, MBA

Stuart Relay

From: Jazmyn Vent [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 12:44 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Comment to HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good afternoon,

Below is my comment in support of House Bill 124.

My name is Jazmyn Vent. I am Koyukon and Iñupiaq from the village of Huslia. I was born and raised in Alaska and have been a resident of Fairbanks since 2016. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 124, the AIDEA Accountability Act. I would also like to thank Representative Carrick for introducing this important legislation.

AIDEA is a state-funded development authority supported by public dollars, yet it has operated for far too long without sufficient accountability to the people it is meant to serve. This lack of oversight is especially concerning for Alaska Native communities, who are often directly impacted by large-scale development projects while being excluded from fair and meaningful public process.

Projects like the Ambler Road highlight these concerns. AIDEA has shown a troubling pattern of advancing industrial development while minimizing public engagement and disregarding Tribal voices, even when projects affect Tribal lands and subsistence resources. This approach is unacceptable for a publicly funded agency.

HB 124 would improve accountability by:

- tightening rules to prevent conflicts of interest within AIDEA leadership,
- ensuring large-scale projects receive direct legislative review before moving forward, and
- making AIDEA's records and decision-making subject to public disclosure laws.

These changes represent basic standards that should already apply to an agency with such expansive authority and spending power. Transparency and legislative oversight are essential to ensuring development decisions reflect the public interest, not just private industrial priorities.

I urge you to support HB 124 and help ensure AIDEA is accountable to all Alaskans, including Alaska Native communities who have long borne the consequences of decisions made without our consent.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jazmyn Vent

Stuart Relay

From: The cool place Bro [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 12:41 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi my name is John Demientieff, I live in Anchorage, Ak, I am emailing to let my legislators know that I am in support of HB 124. Thank You Sent from my iPhone

Stuart Relay

From: hannah corral [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 12:40 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124 AIDEA Accountability ACT COMMENT

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To House State Affairs Legislative Committee,

My name is Hannah Corral of Fairbanks, Alaska, and I am a lifelong Alaskan who supports HB 124 to increase legislative oversight over AIDEA's actions. This act is long overdue. Despite what AIDEA may believe, Alaskans do not all subscribe to the blind pro development ideology. We here are a nuanced fabric of culture and environment and more voices must not only be heard and considered, but the decisions of AIDEA should also be acted on behalf of that fabric that makes us ALL Alaskans. This bill is a good step towards having Alaskans heard in regards to decisions about our shared and common resources. No longer should AIDEA be allowed to act independently under the guise of being a public entity. It is time they are held more accountable by us and our representatives.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for HB 124.

Regards,
Hannah Corral

Stuart Relay

From: Holly Torrison [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 12:21 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support for HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

My name is Holly Torrison and I am a lifelong Alaskan living in Chugiak. I'm writing to you today to express my support for HB 124 the AIDEA accountability act. I would appreciate your support for this bill that will benefit Alaskans.

Thank you,

Holly Massa Torrison

Stuart Relay

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 12:06 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Members of the House State Affairs Committee,

I am writing in opposition to HB 124, “An Act relating to the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority.”

I support transparency and accountability in public institutions. However, HB 124, as currently drafted, would materially undermine AIDEA’s ability to fulfill its statutory mission as an independent economic development authority and would significantly impair Alaska’s ability to advance responsible natural resource and infrastructure projects.

Several provisions raise serious concern:

- The proposed asset cap would force the liquidation of long-term, revenue-producing assets and disrupt existing loan agreements with small and medium-sized Alaska businesses, creating unnecessary financial instability.
- Requiring legislative approval for projects exceeding \$10 million introduces substantial political and timing uncertainty, effectively rendering AIDEA nonfunctional for projects of meaningful scale. This level of unpredictability is incompatible with private capital participation and federal partnership requirements.
- Provisions that risk public disclosure of proprietary and confidential financial information would deter project applicants entirely, eliminating AIDEA’s ability to evaluate or finance projects competitively.

HB 124 would also have direct and disproportionate impacts on the Northwest Arctic Borough. Communities in the region already face a higher-than-average cost of living and limited job opportunities, making stable employment and economic growth especially critical. The region is home to the Red Dog Mine, where AIDEA-owned infrastructure, including the DeLong Mountain Transportation System and port, has supported one of Alaska’s most successful mining operations for decades. Any forced liquidation of these assets or increased political uncertainty surrounding their management would place existing jobs, local hire commitments, and long-term state and borough revenues at risk.

Additionally, communities in the region have long relied on the jobs and economic activity generated by the Ambler Mining District, and the proposed Ambler Road represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to provide economic stability, workforce development, and regional self-determination for decades to come. Introducing legislative uncertainty into AIDEA’s ability to support such projects places that future at risk.

Collectively, these changes threaten AIDEA’s creditworthiness, investor confidence, and independence, all of which are foundational to its success. Alaska’s economy, particularly in rural and resource-

dependent regions, relies on a predictable, disciplined, and professionally managed development authority. HB 124 moves decisively in the opposite direction.

If the intent is to strengthen oversight, I encourage a more targeted and collaborative approach that preserves AIDEA's operational independence while addressing specific accountability concerns without destabilizing the institution.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Respectfully,

Vanessa Larimer

Stuart Relay

From: Aspen Frick [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 11:50 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: written testimony on HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To the members of the Alaska State Legislature;

I am writing to you today to express my strong support for House Bill 124: The AIDEA Accountability Act, and urge you to vote in support of this bill.

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) has a track record of bad investments, contributions to environmental damage that hurts Alaska in the long run, and reckless over-spending, which I believe could be mitigated with more public oversight and a restructuring of the board as is outlined in the bill.

AIDEA's mission statement is to "promote, develop, and advance economic growth and diversification in Alaska by providing various means of financing and investment," yet they have failed to deliver meaningful benefits to Alaskans and primarily serve private interests, gambling with our money and state.

Since 1980, AIDEA has been given \$301 million dollars of public funds. If these same funds were invested into the Permanent Dividend Fund, earning interest, there would be \$11.4 billion dollars in the Permanent Dividend Fund. Seeing as the State of Alaska is consistently seeing deficits in its yearly budget, and struggles to provide education and healthcare to its residents, these billions of dollars could have been put to much better use than the failing projects that AIDEA has invested in.

From 1980 to 2021, nearly half of AIDEA's projects failed- sinking \$233.3 million dollars. It is clear to anyone who looks into where AIDEA is spending their money that they do not invest in smart projects or use their allocated funds wisely. Additionally, from 2008 to 2023, AIDEA only created 218 jobs in Alaska while thousands of Alaskans remained unemployed, in spite of one of the main goals of AIDEA being to provide jobs to Alaskans.

In regards to AIDEA's investments, it has been found that projects they invest in are more likely to cost money than they are to make money. Among the many failed projects AIDEA has invested in are the Mustang oil field, Seward Coal Project, the Skagway Ore Terminal, and Alaska Seafood International. AIDEA has written off \$294 million as worthless since 1987. These outcomes raise serious concerns about whether AIDEA is using public funds responsibly or effectively. I would like to reiterate that this is only based on information that is publicly available, and more information should be accessible to the public about this public-funded corporation.

Additionally, AIDEA is one of the main proponents of the proposed industrial Ambler Road/the Ambler Access Project. They are currently pushing to construct this road and only have a fraction of the money to do so. It has been recently estimated that the project will cost upwards of \$2 billion, while AIDEA is claiming the project

will cost \$765 million. This means more money is being used on what is currently a speculative mining venture than is being spent on education or transportation this year.

The Ambler Access Project and the proposed industrial Ambler Road have also been proven to have massive detrimental impacts on the people, land, cultural resources, fish, animals, and water in northwest Alaska where the road would be constructed. Making sure there is someone advising on environmental impacts of projects AIDEA undertakes is vital to preserving Alaska for future generations.

AIDEA is working with Ambler Metals LLC, which is a mining company that is owned jointly by Trilogy Metals and South32— Trilogy is a Canadian company and South32 is Australian. AIDEA wants to spend (at minimum) \$2 billion dollars of public money on a private road to be used by foreign mining companies, while causing irreparable harm to northwest Alaska.

Providing more oversight into AIDEA’s operations and decision-making is imperative as the state continues to navigate through an ongoing financial crisis and adapts to the realities of climate change that are impacting our state at an alarming rate.

Please pass House Bill 124: the AIDEA Accountability Act. It is the first step in a long process to fix the priorities of the state, and give power back to the people of Alaska over their futures.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of this bill.

Aspen Theone Frick
Fairbanks, Alaska

Sources:

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<https://aideakeepslosing.com/about-the-losers/>

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Brooks, James. “After Being Bailed Out by Alaska’s State Government, North Slope Oil Field Is Eyed for Sale.” *Alaska Beacon*, September 30, 2023.

“New Economic Report(s): AIDEA’s ‘Investments’ Are Politically-Driven Gambles That Have Lost Alaskans Billions.” SalmonState, September 27, 2022. <https://salmonstate.org/press-releases/new-economic-reports-aideas-investments-are-politically-driven-gambles-that-have-lost-alaskans-billions>.

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https://eplanning.blm.gov/public_projects/?doc=57323%2F200091317%2F20118938%2F251018918%2FAmbler%20Road%20BLM%20ROD_508.pdf

Stuart Relay

From: Ji Montgomery [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 11:12 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: RE: SUPPORT HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear whom to concern,

My name is Ji Montgomery I live in camp hill pa. Keep AIDEA accountability I'm emailing to express my support for HB124, The AIDEA accountability act. Alaskans deserve greater transparency, stronger oversight provide more public oversight to AIDEA a state funded corporation that wastes millions every year.

From,
Ji Montgomery

Stuart Relay

From: Frana BA [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 10:33 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: I support HB 124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

My name is Frana Burtness-Adams and I am in support of HB 124

"Have the bravery to act and the humility to be corrected" - Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyaq

Frana BA

Any pronouns - [what's this?](#)

fburtnessadams@gmail.com
<https://linktr.ee/franaba>

I acknowledge and honor the Lower Tanana Dene peoples, the rightful stewards of the [land I am on](#). I honor the lives, languages, and cultures by healing from my internalized white supremacy, paying reparations, and working with people like, to heal.

I see and support Indigenous and Native youth, activists, leaders, parents, elders, and ancestors for their continued work to get their rightful [#LandBack](#) [#WaterBack](#) [#DefendTheSacred](#) [#OceanBack](#)

Stuart Relay

From: Jessica McKay [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 9:37 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Support of HB124

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Alaska Legislature,

My name is Jessica McKay, and I live in Copper Center, Alaska. I am emailing to let you know that I support HB124.

It is imperative that we hold developers accountable and prioritize the welfare of the people of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Jessica McKay

Stuart Relay

From: Atigun [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 9:22 AM
To: House State Affairs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi, my name is Atigun Papp, I live in Fairbanks and grew up in the Eastern Brooks Range, I am emailing to let my legislators know that I am in support of HB 124. Thank you.