
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 8:23 PM
To: House Energy; Isaac Vanderburg; Timothy Treuer
Subject: Support for HJR 27

Hello Co-Chairs Holland and Mears,

I am sorry that I missed the opportunity for public testimony in today's committee meeting. Please see our support for HJR 27 below.

My name is Penny Gage, and I am the Chief Policy & Partnerships Officer at Launch Alaska. Launch Alaska is a nonprofit focused on accelerating energy, resource, and infrastructure innovation across the state. We work with entrepreneurs and startups companies, utilities, communities, and industry partners to deploy projects that strengthen Alaska's economy and lower energy costs.

We support HJR 27 because it affirms the need for a coordinated, comprehensive energy and economic strategy.

I would like to briefly emphasize one additional lens that we believe is essential: industrial policy.

Industrial policy means using targeted state tools to strengthen priority sectors through market preparation, market creation, and market expansion. In practical terms, that could mean removing regulatory barriers, signaling long-term commitment to key industries, and aligning permitting, infrastructure, workforce development, and financing to build durable economic clusters.

Alaska's opportunity is not either-or. It is both-and. We have extraordinary comparative advantages in natural gas, critical minerals, renewable resources, and proximity to Pacific markets. But comparative advantage alone does not guarantee growth. It requires coordinated execution.

We appreciate the resolution's emphasis on aligning energy and economic planning, advancing value-added mineral processing, integrating rural and Indigenous priorities, and positioning Alaska to leverage federal investment. Alaska cannot afford fragmented planning or delayed execution, particularly as Southcentral Alaska faces near-term gas supply challenges and rural communities continue to bear some of the highest energy costs in the nation.

If we are serious about lower-cost power, clean industrial development, and scalable ventures in the coming years, we must intentionally align permitting timelines, grid investment, workforce pathways, capital formation, and federal resources around those goals.

Other states and countries are doing this with discipline. Alaska should as well. HJR 27 points in that direction. The key will be sustained implementation and coordination across agencies.

Launch Alaska stands ready to help translate strategy into deployable projects that create jobs, lower costs, and strengthen long-term competitiveness.

Thank you for your time and your leadership on Alaska's energy future.

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