510 W. Fireweed Lane Anchorage, Alaska 99503 * Phone (907)277-6064 Fax (907)277-6013

March 19, 2009

The Honorable Mike Kelly Alaska House of Representatives State Capitol Building Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182 Reference: **House Bill 185**

Dear Representative Kelly,

On behalf of Megawatt Electric LLC, I wish to express our support for House Bill 185. We are a small company employing around 60 full time staff and field craftsman.

HB 185 promotes and ensures open competition on state construction projects, while maintaining neutrality towards construction contractors' labor relations. As a small business owner, we believe that the cost and quality of a project should be based on the open competitive bidding process, without favoritism to any special interest. Union only Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) will only drive the costs up and bring workers from out of the state to man them and bypass qualified local workers to perform this work, let alone taking work away from us local contractors.

Protecting our freedom of choice is the responsibility of government, not forcing union membership on our employees. Some groups will say that government requirements of a union shop does not discriminate against us or our employees, but they ignore the fact that the Alaska State Government provides many million of dollar in contracts across the state. This limits those of us who are not affiliated with a union the opportunity to bid on these projects and for our employees to work on these projects.

Thank you for introducing this important legislation of behalf of my employees.

1. Hele

Sincerely yours,

Dennis L. Hebert, President