



February 24, 2014

The Honorable Representative Peggy Wilson
House Transportation Committee
State Capitol Room 406
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Representative.Peggy.Wilson@akleg.gov

Re: SB 178 Passenger Vehicle Rental Tax

Dear Chairman Wilson,

Coffman Engineers, Inc. (Coffman) is a multidiscipline engineering firm that has been in business in Alaska since 1979. Our firm is deeply rooted in the State and we are dedicated to justly perpetuating its economy. To this end, I am writing you in support of Senate Bill 178.

Senate Bill 178 clarifies the original intent of the legislature in regard to the initial passing of the Rental Car Tax. The intent was not to tax Alaskan businesses for commerce with fellow Alaskan businesses; the intent was to raise funds from outside visitors for marketing related funding for tourism.

If this Bill is not passed, the result will be a direct pass-through tax by vendors of my business when this was clearly never the intent of the legislature. This will be a huge detriment to all Alaskan businesses and more importantly, costly to our local economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments regarding my support of Senate Bill 178. Please note that I am willing to testify on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at Coffman (800 F Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Phone: 907.276.6664. Email: gries@coffman.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jeff Gries", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeff Gries, P.E., Principal

Cc: Representative Thompson

Representative.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov