March 12, 2013

The Honorable Anna Fairclough Senator, Alaska State Senate Alaska State Capitol, Room 514 Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Senate Bill 63

Dear Senator Fairclough:

The mission of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce (Alaska Chamber) is to promote a positive business environment in Alaska. The Alaska Chamber represents hundreds of businesses and local chambers from across Alaska. These member businesses support a fair and open marketplace in which to do business and Senate Bill 63 is a part of achieving that goal.

The Alaska Chamber supports SB 63 because it addresses two issues important to the Alaska Chamber and its members. First, it creates a level playing field where all businesses may compete for a state contract. Second, it specifically supports our goal of achieving a more efficient and cost effective government.

While the bill requires a competitive bidding process for the production of election ballots, it does not force the Division of Elections to use the state procurement code and instead lets them develop their own evaluation criteria. This ensures that the department is able to secure properly prepared ballots in a timely manner.

The Alaska Chamber appreciates your work to improve Alaska's business climate and fully supports SB 63.

Sincerely,

Rachael A. Petro President/CEO



The Voice of Alaska Business

> **Headquarters** 471 W 36th Ave Suite 201 Anchorage AK 99503 (907) 278-2722

Regional Office 3100 Channel Dr. Suite 300 Juneau AK 99801 (907) 586-2323