

February 21, 2017

Co-Chair Representative Andy Josephson Co-Chair Representative Geran Tarr House Resources Committee Alaska State Legislature

Re: Comment in Support of HB 130

Dear Co-Chairs Representative Josephson and Representative Tarr,

The Aleutians East Borough, a 2nd Class Borough of the State of Alaska, is situated on the western portion of the Alaska Peninsula, and includes the easternmost Aleutian Islands. Our communities include Nelson Lagoon, Cold Bay, False Pass, Akutan, King Cove and Sand Point.

Our staff has reviewed the language in HB 130, related to the Izembek State Game Refuge and the Port Moller Critical Habitat Area located within the Borough. We find that the proposed boundary corrections are necessary to the practical management and accurate depiction of these land areas.

We respectfully request that your committee support this important legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rick Gifford

Borough Administrator

Cc: Speaker Bryce Edgmon