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To the members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing today to encourage you to pass HB 79, related to worker's compensation reform, out of your Committee and on to the Senate Floor for a vote before the end of this session. I currently serve on the State of Alaska Workers' Compensation Board as a "Management" appointee and I also bid and run work in the construction industry for KC Corporation. As a contractor who bids work specifically in the painting and drywall finishing industries it is impossible for our business to compete when many unscrupulous contractors in Alaska unlawfully classify their workers as "independent sub-contractors" instead of as employees - simply so they don't have to pay for worker's compensation premiums or payroll taxes. This gives them a huge advantage over me and other law-abiding companies who properly classify the men and women who actually do the field labor for our company as employees.

Having a clear definition of what an independent contractor actually is, as provided for in HB 79, is a commonsense solution to this problem and I strongly encourage you to pass this Bill. This is a fairness in contracting issue and this Bill will be good for all honest construction businesses in Alaska. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. I can be reached at bstubbs@kccorporation.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brett Stubbs', written over a horizontal line.

Brett Stubbs

Estimator, KC Corporation