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January 24, 2019

Senator Chris Birch, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Letter of Support for Jason Brune

Dear Senator Birch:

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) writes to support the nomination of Jason Brune as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

AMA is a professional membership trade organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry in Alaska. We are composed of more than 1,500 members that come from eight statewide branches: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks, Haines, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan/Prince of Wales, and Nome. Our members include individual prospectors, geologists, engineers, vendors, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, and major mining companies. We look for and produce gold, silver, platinum, molybdenum, lead, zinc, copper, coal, limestone, sand and gravel, crushed stone, armor rock, and other materials.

Alaska's miners have worked with Mr. Brune for a number of years, most recently in his role at Cook Inlet Region Inc. (CIRI). He has developed a reputation within the regulated community as having extensive knowledge on Alaska biology. When approaching any issue, Mr. Brune has always focused on the science, maintained that resource development must be responsible, and strives to achieve what is truly best for Alaska.

Mr. Brune has worked in Alaska in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, and in all, he has remained focused on science above politics. As a science-based regulatory agency, DEC would greatly benefit from Mr. Brune's technical expertise, and we support his confirmation as Commissioner.

Thank you for your consideration,

Deantha Crockett
Executive Director