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an  
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March 22, 2019

Honorable Lora Reinbold  
Chair, Senate Labor and Commerce  
Alaska State Capitol  
Room 427  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Senate Bill 83 Updating Telecommunications Statutes

Dear Chair Reinbold and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of TelAlaska, a telecommunications service company serving 24 communities in rural Alaska, I am writing with my support of Senate Bill 83. This bill will allow Alaska companies to manage their tariffs efficiently and effectively as well as continue to protect consumers.

TelAlaska is a provider of local, long distance and cellular phone service, as well as cable television and internet service. The company services over 31,000 square miles of remote rural areas from Fort Yukon, to Little Diomed, to the Aleutian Islands and the Kenai Peninsula. Only three of the 24 Alaska communities that TelAlaska serves are accessible by road. Headquartered in Anchorage, TelAlaska has customer service and operations sites in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, Seward and Nome.

We strongly support the changes and updates to Alaska telecommunication statutes that are included in SB 83. The current statutes are outdated and need revisions to more accurately reflect today's technology. TelAlaska believes that SB 83 would be beneficial to our customers through consumer protections and would also encourage and support our company's continued investment in new technologies and infrastructure to better serve our customers. Furthermore, the elimination of unnecessary tariff filings would make operations more efficient for both the RCA and the providers.

Thank you for your consideration of these important revisions. If I can assist in answering any questions about Alaska telecommunications, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Dave Goggins  
President & General Manager  
GM@telalaska.com