



OTZ TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

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March 22, 2019

The Honorable Lora Reinbold
Chair, Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol, Beltz 105
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: Support Senate Bill 83 – Telecommunications Regulations/Exemptions

Dear Chair Reinbold:

OTZ Telephone Cooperative fully supports SB 83. OTZ Telephone serves Kotzebue, 10 villages, and the Red Dog Mine, all located within the boundaries of the Northwest Arctic Borough. As a Cooperative, it is managed by a seven member board of directors, who always have the best interests of the people of the region at heart. During my 24 years as CEO of OTZ Telephone, I've seen consumer demand evolve from plain old telephone service to high speed in-home data and wireless networks. While the way we deliver telecommunications services has greatly changed over the past 20 years, the statutes that regulate those changes have changed little over that period of time and, for this reason, OTZ Telephone fully supports SB 83.

Sincerely,

Doug Neal
Chief Executive Officer