



## **ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS of ALASKA**

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April 12, 2019

Senator Chris Birch  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 125  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Support for Senate Bill 80, Initiative Severability

Dear Senator Birch,

The Associated General Contractors of Alaska (AGC) is writing to express its support for Senate Bill 80, an Act relating to proposing and enacting laws by initiative.

The AGC is a member organization representing the construction industry with over 600+ members statewide. We unite the construction industry to focus on balanced advancement and work to foster and promote constructive legislation, regulation and standards. Our commitment to advocacy ensures that our members voices are heard throughout the state on important issues affecting the construction industry.

AGC views SB 80 as a vehicle to bring clarity to the initiative process and restore the State's appropriate role in vetting of initiatives. We also believe that SB 80 would result in fewer prolonged legal battles once ballot measure proponents understand that if any section of their initiative did not pass constitutional requisites, they would be required to revert to the signature gathering stage of the process. This should result in more carefully crafted ballot measures at the onset.

We believe SB 80 would maintain the integrity of the signature gathering process and ensure that the version of the initiative that is approved by Alaskans, who sign on as supporters, is the actual language that is presented in its final form to the voters. The courts should not be permitted to alter the language with material changes after submission by its sponsors and signers.

Thank you for putting forth SB 80 to ensure that language in a proposed initiative is unchanged from the language in the petition booklets of which they signed. We respectfully urge members support of SB 80.

Sincerely,

Alicia Siira  
Executive Director