From: <u>Veri di Suvero</u>

To: Senate Finance Committee

Subject: AKPIRG comments on SB 123

Date: Monday, March 02, 2020 1:53:37 PM

To the Alaska Senate Finance Committee,

On behalf of the Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AKPIRG), I am writing in support of SB 123. This bill addresses a critical gap in our current electric utilities efficiency planning.

The creation of an Electric Reliability Organization with oversight by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska cannot happen too soon. As Commissioner Scott testified to the Senate Railbelt Committee, just a 2% increase in efficiency will save consumers \$17 million annually.

In addition, the ability of the RCA to have project pre-approval is a historically recognized need. SB123 will help utilities plan capital investments more efficiently through Integrated Resource Planning, as well as realize cost savings through increased efficiency for ratepayers.

As the only non-profit consumer advocacy group in Alaska, AKPIRG strongly supports this bill and commends the state legislature for an open and transparent engagement process.

Sincerely, Veri

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## Veri di Suvero (they/them)

Executive Director Alaska Public Interest Research Group www.akpirg.org w. 907.350.2286 c. 917.209.9928

Dena'inaq elnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina) I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina. (English) Translation by J. Isaak and S. Shaginoff-Stuart

