



Senate Labor & Commerce Committee Members

Delbert J. Rexford, President/ Chief Executive Officer

February 8, 2021

Senate Bill 24 Support Statement Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman & Committee Members,

For the record my name is Delbert J. Rexford, President/ Chief Executive Officer of Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. I represent over 3,000 Inupiat Shareholders of Record, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 24 "An Act authorizing virtual meetings of shareholders of a corporation; and authorizing virtual meetings of members of a nonprofit corporation."

As Alaska's largest village corporation, Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation, fully supports the passage of Senate Bill 24. We experienced delays and cancellations of our customary face to face 2020 Annual Shareholders Meeting with difficulties and increased legal expenditures, nearly doubling our costs to conduct an annual meeting of our shareholders in 2020 due to COVID-19 federal, state and local hunker down and mandatory quarantine declarations. We support authorizing virtual meetings of shareholders of non-profit and for-profit corporations making this ability to meet virtually permanent in the state of Alaska. This legislation will allow our corporation and all other Alaska Native Corporations across our great State of Alaska to plan our shareholder annual meetings effectively, especially at a time when viruses of pandemic proportions restrict planning due to unforeseen hardships such as the Covid-19 Outbreak. Please consider immediate

passage of Senate Bill 24 legislation to allow corporations to meet virtually. On behalf of those we serve as elected officials we fully support in the very strongest sense of the word the passage of Senate Bill 24. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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