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April 27, 2021

The Honorable Peter Micciche Senate President Alaska State Legislature State Capitol, Room 111 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Micciche:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the sale, lease, or permit of state land for remote recreational sites. The proposal establishes a framework to encourage the settlement of state land and the development of its resources. With only three percent of state land in private ownership, we need changes to allow more Alaskans to lease or purchase land for recreational purposes.

This bill provides a fair and efficient process for Alaskans to obtain an interest in state land that is consistent with our constitutional principles. The bill amends the current remote recreational cabin program to allow Alaskans to nominate and stake eligible state land for use as remote recreational sites. Eligible applicants may nominate up to ten acres of vacant, unappropriated, or unreserved state land as defined in AS 29.65.130 for a remote recreational site if that land is not already included in the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) schedule of land offerings. Applicants must include a site survey and appraisal and agree to pay fair market value. The bill further authorizes the commissioner of DNR to permit or lease state land for remote recreational sites.

This legislation will put more land into the hands of Alaskans. It will afford Alaskans opportunities to better enjoy our state, whether setting up a seasonal recreational structure or building a cabin for their family to use for a lifetime.

I request your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

Mike Dunleavy

Governor

Enclosure