

April 21, 2021

Representative Edgmon  
State Capitol Room 410  
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Representative Edgmon:

Thank you for your recent introduction of HB 182. All six Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) program organizations stand united in support of reinstating the CDQ Resource Landing Tax Credit Program (RLTC). The CDQ program represents 65 western Alaska communities and utilizes fisheries resources to provide benefits to our region, alleviating poverty and working toward sustainable local economies.

As you know, the CDQ RLTC expired December 31, 2020. Legislation was introduced during the 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature to extend the CDQ RLTC through 2030. However, it did not ultimately pass despite wide support, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Passing HB 182 this session will allow CDQ harvest partners to again redirect approximately 45% of their landing tax liability from CDQ harvest back to the CDQ program for fisheries related investments and research. In 2019, the Department of Revenue and Legislative Finance Division recommended continuation of the CDQ RLTC and estimated no foregone revenue by the State.

In recent years, the CDQ RLTC has specifically allowed for increased investments from the CDQ program to ensure stability in western Alaska community development priorities and collaborative fisheries research efforts in support of the State. In order to continue our fisheries related investment and research activities, including work in support of the State, we urge swift passage of HB 182 to renew the CDQ RLTC. All six CDQ groups stand prepared to assist your office and the entire CDQ legislative delegation in this effort.

The support of the State of Alaska and the Alaska State Legislature since the inception of the CDQ program in 1992 has been instrumental to our many successes. We hope to continue this fruitful partnership long into the future.

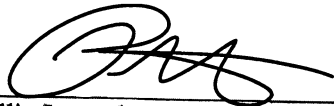
Thank you,

*Luke Fanning*

Luke Fanning, Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association

*Norm Van Vactor*

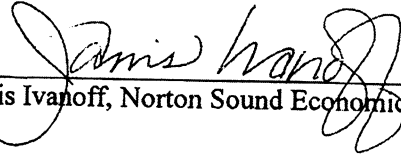
Norm Van Vactor, Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation



Phillip Lestenkof, Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association



Eric Deakin, Coastal Villages Region Fund



Janis Ivanoff, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation



Ragnar Alstrom, Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association

Cc:

Senator Hoffman

Senator Olson

Representative Foster

Representative Zulkosky