

## Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
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## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Representative Neal Foster

The Honorable Representative Kelly Merrick

Co-Chairs, House Finance Committee

FROM: Julie Anderson, Commissioner

Salie anteron

DATE: Wednesday, May 05, 2021

RE: Hearing Request for HB 170

Please accept this request to schedule HB 170 – ENERGY INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM & FUND: AIDEA for consideration by the House Finance Committee.

HB 170 amends AS 44.88 to establish the Alaska Clean Energy Fund/Program or "AK CEF" (previously known as the Alaska Energy Independence Fund/Program or "AK EIF") within the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA). The Fund would be established to make loans and provide other forms of financing for clean energy development in Alaska's residential, commercial, and individual market sectors. It would make capital more accessible to borrowers for clean energy projects and incentivize co-investment in Alaska's emerging clean energy sector between the public sector, Alaska's financial sector, and private investors.

HB 170 would greatly benefit Alaska by creating a pathway to create new jobs and businesses, decrease commercial and household energy cost for redeployment in Alaska's economy, and increase Alaska's energy independence.

The following documents are included in the HB 170 hearing request packet:

- This HB 170 Hearing Request Memo
- HB 170 Sponsor Statement/Transmittal Letter
- HB 170 Sectional Analysis (Version W)
- HB 170 Summary of Changes (Version W)
- HB 170 Presentation from AIDEA
- Three (3) HB 170 Supporting Documents
- Three (3) Invited Testifier Presentations

Invited testimony for HB 170 (each have presentations to provide to the committee as noted above):

- Bert Hunter, Chief Investment Officer, Connecticut Green Bank, (203) 918-0013 or bert.hunter@ctgreenbank.com;
- Jeff Schub, Executive Director, Coalition for Green Capitol, (973) 714-1176 or jeff@coalitionforgreencapital.com;
- Chris Rose, Executive Director, Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP), (907) 232-0908 or <a href="mailto:chris@realaska.org">chris@realaska.org</a>.

If you have any questions regarding this hearing request, please feel free to contact AIDEA Executive Director, Alan Weitzner, at (907) 771-3050 or <a href="Movement-awaidea.org">AWeitzner@aidea.org</a>; or DCCED Legislative Liaison, Glenn Hoskinson at (907) 465-6466, (907) 321-1423, or <a href="Glenn.Hoskinson@alaska.gov">Glenn.Hoskinson@alaska.gov</a>.