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Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

February 26, 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 certain individuals transitioning from foster care services to adult foster care services.

This proposal addresses an urgent need to establish safe residential living environments for certain foster children who must transition out of the foster care system upon turning 18 years of age. This bill provides a means for current foster parents to transition their existing foster care license, to a new adult foster care home license in order to allow their foster child to remain in the same home, and with the same family, when the child is released from state custody. The foster child must meet certain requirements, have been in state custody prior to turning 18, have been residing in the foster home, and must be eligible to receive home- and community-based waiver services.

This new license will provide structured services and family continuity by allowing eligible foster children to continue living with their current foster family after aging out of the traditional foster care system. By providing this transitional assistance, we can assure that vulnerable citizens receive continued and responsible care into adulthood.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Dunleavy".

Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosure