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Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

March 10, 2022

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 designation of Outstanding National Resource Waters (Tier III) in Alaska.

The Environmental Protection Agency requires that states have a process by which an "Outstanding Natural Resource Water," or a Tier III water, may be designated, and has approved the Department of Environmental Conservation's policy to direct nominations for Tier III waters to the Legislature. The designation of a Tier III water includes significant use restrictions and requires substantial evaluations on that water and would exceed the Department's statutory authority to regulate the quality and purity of the water.

This bill would establish that a Tier III water may only be designated in statute, and water may not be managed as Tier III waters unless they have been designated.

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