

## **Anchorage Homelessness Leadership Council**

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April 6, 2023

Senator Forrest Dunbar  
State Capitol Room 125  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Representative Jessie Sumner  
State Capitol Room 125  
Juneau, Alaska 9801

Re: Support for SB 77/HB 84

Dear Senator Dunbar and Representative Sumner:

The Anchorage Homelessness Leadership Council is a group of business and community leaders who provide strategic vision, align resources, monitor, and advocate for Anchored Home, Anchorage's strategic plan to make homelessness rare, brief, and a one-time occurrence. The Council recognizes that the lack of housing supply and the cost of housing affects every community in Alaska and presents a barrier to preventing homelessness, reducing overcrowding, finding housing opportunities to exit shelters, and housing our workforce.

The Council supports Senate Bill 77 and its companion, House Bill 84, to advance policies that spur economic and housing development as an important step to address the dearth of available housing that is accessible and affordable to people of all income levels. The need for additional workforce affordable housing that address all income levels is a critical need across Alaska and this legislation offers the opportunity to add desperately needed tools for communities to use at their discretion to spur new housing construction.

Providing municipalities across Alaska with additional tools to incent economic development and housing projects, and to assist municipalities to work with owners to encourage the development and redevelopment of blighted properties, will catalyze new construction and development. Market-rate housing projects currently do not pencil for what most home renters or buyers can afford. Giving local communities these important added tools to address funding gaps, and the flexibility to decide locally how to incent housing and economic development, will open the doors to innovation and more development.

Thank you for your consideration of this important topic.