

April 12, 2023

The Honorable Senator Löki Tobin
Chair, Senate Education
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Support for SB 120 Education Tax Credits

Dear Senator Tobin and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. (UCM), located in Healy, Alaska, is a fourth-generation, family-owned business. As the only operating coal mine in the state, UCM supplies 100 percent of the in-state demand to six coal-fired power plants in Interior Alaska. UCM employs approximately 100 people and is the largest year-round private sector employer in the Denali Borough.

As a company that is subject to Alaska's Mining License Tax, UCM has participated in the Education Tax Credit program for many years. UCM has made many meaningful contributions to the University of Alaska by endowing student scholarships, supporting faculty research, and providing program support in various departments at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, such as the College of Business and Security Management and the College of Engineering and Mines. Additionally, UCM's contributions have supported capital projects such as the newly named Joseph E. Usibelli Engineering Learning and Innovation Building, the Museum of the North, and the staff meeting and locker room at the University power plant.

If SB 120 does not pass this session, the Education Tax Credit program will sunset. While UCM understands that the legislature is reexamining many programs such as this one, we urge you to extend the Education Tax Credit program. The Education Tax Credit program directly leverages additional private funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for SB 120. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (907) 982-6744 or lorali@usibelli.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lorali M Simon'.

Lorali Simon
Vice President, External Affairs