From: <u>Mark Masteller</u>

To: Senate Finance Committee **Subject:** Please support SB125

Date: Saturday, April 08, 2023 9:32:31 AM

Members of Senate Finance,

I'm writing to voice my support for SB 125 establishing an "Energy Independence Fund." This is a great opportunity to create a financing mechanism to help Alaskans save money and energy, and promote a transition to energy systems that do not have volatile fuel costs. I agree with Gov. Dunleavy that this Fund will help "fuel a growing economy," and it will also allow the state to take advantage of additional funding available from the federal green bank.

I also serve on the board of the Matanuska Electric Association (though of course I do not speak for the board), and I believe this Fund will provide many opportunities for our utility to help control costs for our member-owners. Affordable electricity is critical as we work to promote development and diversify our economic base.

Please support SB 125! Thanks for your consideration.

Mark Masteller Palmer