



THE STATE  
*of* **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

**Department of Health**  
ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

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To the Honorable Members of the Alaska Legislature,

As the Chair of the Alaska Commission on Aging, I am writing to endorse Senate Bill No. 189, which seeks to extend the Commission's operation until June 30, 2032. This extension is not merely administrative; it is fundamental to our mission of ensuring the dignity and independence of all older Alaskans, and assisting them in leading meaningful lives through planning, advocacy, education, and interagency cooperation.

Our commission's work, particularly in developing the Alaska State Plan for Senior Services, is a statutory requirement. This plan is a testament to our commitment and a guiding framework for senior services across the state. Moreover, our collaboration with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority as a joint advocacy advisor amplifies our impact, especially in addressing the mental health aspects of senior well-being.

The continuation of our commission as proposed in Senate Bill No. 189 is crucial for sustaining our ability to serve Alaska's senior population effectively. We appreciate your support in passing this bill, ensuring that our seniors continue to receive the focused attention and care they deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this essential bill.

Warm regards,

*Bob Sivertsen*

Bob Sivertsen  
Chair of the Board  
Alaska Commission on Aging