



April 10, 2018

Senator Ana MacKinnon, Co-Chair
Senator Lyman Hoffman, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 532
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senators MacKinnon & Hoffman,

Re: Senate Bill 176 – Tax Credit Cert. Bond Corp; Royalties

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce supports efforts of the State and the Legislature to pay its obligations in order to re-establish its credibility and reputation to reinvigorate future investment.

The Alaska Chamber is a non-profit founded in 1953 working to promote a positive business environment in Alaska. The Chamber is the voice of small and large businesses representing hundreds of employers and local chambers across Alaska. Our member companies employ over 100,000 hard-working Alaskans. The Chamber supports and encourages a positive investment climate that provides certainty and stability for Alaska businesses.

Senate Bill 176 looks at the State's unpaid obligation on hundreds of millions of tax credits earned by companies who invested in Alaska for the exploration and production of oil and provides an out-of-the-box approach to pay off those credits. The State has gone too long in paying off its obligations and has created a negative business climate which has damaged its reputation and made companies fearful of making any future investments in Alaska.

Senate Bill 176 provides clear acknowledgment the State recognizes the obligation of the earned credits and creates a structured plan to provide those delayed refunds sooner than later. We believe a rapid resolution will create a resurgence of investment in the state leading to more jobs for Alaskans and revenue for Alaska.

The Alaska Chamber encourages the Senate Finance Committee to look at this avenue as well as any others in order to make Alaska once again a place known for its positive business reputation and credibility amongst the business community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Curtis W. Thayer'.

Curtis W. Thayer
President & CEO



ALASKA CHAMBER

Cc: Senator Click Bishop, Vice-Chair
Senator Peter Micciche
Senator Natasha von Imhof
Senator Donny Olson
Senator Gary Stevens