



March 21, 2022

Co-Chair Foster
Co-Chair Merrick
House Finance Committee

Re: Primacy funding for 404 & RCRA

Dear House Finance Committee Co-Chairs,

The Alaska Chamber (the Chamber) writes in support of funding State primacy programs of the Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (404) and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

The Alaska Chamber was founded in 1953 and is Alaska's largest statewide business advocacy organization. Our mission is to promote a healthy business environment in Alaska. The Chamber has more than 700 members and represents businesses of all sizes and industries from across the state, representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

The Chamber has a longstanding position in support of increasing responsible natural resource development by improving the efficiencies of the permitting process and gaining access to our resources. State primacy of the 404 and RCRA programs will result in a timelier and better coordinated permitted process without compromising current regulatory standards and requirements. We are pleased the Legislature approved the statutory authority to implement the 404 and RCRA primacy programs and encourage you to take the next crucial step in providing for the funding needed to successfully apply for and implement the programs.

There have been significant federal administrative and legislative actions that have negatively impacted Alaska's businesses and overall investment climate. By providing the funding needed to implement the 404 and RCRA programs, the Legislature can bring some much-needed stability back to Alaska. A State-run program is accountable to Alaskans and the legislature, and will assure that Alaska will have control of its permitting priorities

Thank you for your consideration in funding the 404 and RCRA primacy programs, which will help Alaska's economy get back on track and set us up for success moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kati Capozzi'.

Kati Capozzi
President & CEO



471 West 36th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503



Office (907) 278-2722
Fax (907) 278-6643



www.alaskachamber.com
info@alaskachamber.com