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Lt. Gov. Kevin Meyer
State of Alaska, *EX OFFICIO*



July 13, 2021

Dear ATIA Members and Partners,

On June 30, Governor Dunleavy reviewed the final budget approved by the Alaska State Legislature. At that time, the Governor made a [number of vetoes](#) under his authority as Governor. Among these vetoes was the removal of an appropriation of \$10 million to ATIA for statewide destination marketing funding.

ATIA is very aware of the situation and is monitoring the legislative landscape. As is our stated goal we will continue to advocate for funding for sustained statewide destination marketing as one component toward Alaska's travel and tourism recovery. Our message on your behalf has not and will not waiver.

ATIA has proposed a budget of \$10 million from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to advance our marketing efforts this winter into next summer and beyond, at a time when Alaska's competition as a safe and premier travel destination will only increase.

Your ATIA Board and government relations leaders will be tracking the upcoming special session which begins on August 2, 2021, called by the Governor to address four topics:

- Constitutional Amendment to establish an appropriation limit (HJR 6/ SJR 5)
- Constitutional Amendment to prohibit new state taxes without voter approval (HJR 8/ SJR 7)
- Appropriations of federal relief funds, including ARP funds
- Potential measures to increase state revenues

ATIA remains confident for an overall budget resolution, which will result in a beneficial outcome for all of Alaskans and continue the economic gain we have made in 2021. Thank you as always for your support and engagement with ATIA.

Sincerely,

Sarah Leonard
ATIA President & CEO

Bill Pedlar, Knightly Tours
Chair, ATIA Board of Directors