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State of Alaska, *EX OFFICIO*



December 15, 2020

Senator Lisa Murkowski  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

On behalf of the more than 600 business members and partners of the Alaska Travel Industry Association (ATIA), thank you for your efforts to pass the Bipartisan Emergency COVID Relief Act of 2020.

We know you recognize Alaska's tourism industry has been devastated by the coronavirus pandemic. With virtually no cruise ships, decreased air travel, and no cross-border vehicle travel in 2020, tourism businesses are struggling to stay in business. Your support for the CARES Act and subsequent legislation allowed many of our businesses to adjust to new operating protocols, shift business practices, and look forward to a brighter future.

As we enter into an uncertain 2021, thank you for your work with colleagues around the Bipartisan Emergency COVID Relief Act of 2020. The following provisions will support our industry as we recover from COVID19's impacts:

- Enabling small businesses to apply for a second, forgivable Paycheck Protection Program loan, simplifying the loan forgiveness process, and expanding eligibility to 501(c)6 industry associations.
- Extending the Payroll Support Program through March 2021 for aviation workers and supporting the Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services (CERTS) Act of 2020 for other transportation providers.
- Agreeing in principle to good faith negotiations on liability for businesses that follow proper health and safety guidelines to protect against COVID-19.
- Sending funds to states for increased testing, contact tracing, personal protective equipment, and vaccine distribution to protect our employees, customers, and communities as we adapt and resume business operations.

As you close out the current session and enter the new year, we recognize that you and your colleagues in the U.S. Senate will be faced with serious challenges. Together, we look to you to support Alaska's visitor industry and make a difference for Alaskans and for all Americans.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide additional information or support for your legislative efforts. Again, thank you for all you do for Alaska.

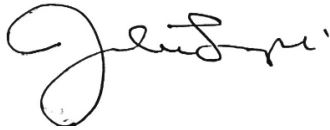
Sincerely,



Sarah Leonard  
ATIA President & CEO



Bill Pedlar  
Knightly Tours  
Chair, ATIA Board of Directors



Julie Saupe  
Visit Anchorage  
ATIA Government Relations Co-Chair



Holly Johnson  
Wings Airways & Taku Glacier Lodge  
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