GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

February 25, 2016

Commissioner Randall Hoffbeck
Department of Revenue
P.O. Box 110400
Juneau, AK 99811-0400

Dear Commissioner Hoffbeck,

On behalf of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to meet with your office while we were in Juneau February 17 and 18. We appreciate all of the hard work, time, effort and energy that you and your staff put forward during session and we understand your busy meeting schedule. Thank you for the time made available to us to address the issues that are most important to the business community of Fairbanks.

You will recall that our number one priority this year is to ***support a comprehensive, long-term sustainable budget for the State of Alaska***. On February 8, the Chamber's Board of Directors reaffirmed their position to support efforts that: right-size government, ensure effective use of state resources by delivering essential programs efficiently, make strategic investments that promote the long-term economic growth, ensure the state's budget aligns revenues and expenses, examine formula funded programs, re-open salary negotiations and consider privatization of some state services. The Chamber also supports the use of Permanent Fund earnings this year as the state continues to work toward a sustainable fiscal policy and plan.

In addition to fiscal position, the Chamber also supports reform to ***workers' compensation***, ***criminal justice*** and ***Medicaid***, all of which have the potential to positively affect the budget. Additionally, we continue support the necessary funding to complete the UAF Engineering Building, the gas pipeline projects and the PACE legislation that would complement the Interior Energy Project's goals of affordable energy.

Thank you for your service to our great State and for the time and effort you commit to improving the lives of all Alaskans. If there is anything the Chamber can do to support you in your efforts, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Lisa Herbert
President and CEO

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