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Governor Michael J. Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

April 13, 2022

The Honorable Carlos Del Toro
Secretary of the Navy
Office of the Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 4D652
Washington, DC 20350

Dear Secretary Del Toro,

As Alaska's Governor, and Commander-in-Chief of the Alaska National Guard, I wholeheartedly support Navy SEAL training in our immense and military-friendly open spaces, which include more coastline than all the rest of the Nation combined.

Alaska is no stranger to the military with roughly 750,000 acres of military reserve lands and training grounds across the State, and ten times the veteran percentage as compared to the "lower 48." The military played a significant role in building our proud State and the culture positively permeates many aspects of our day-to-day life in America's "Last Frontier." Additionally, Alaska boasts arguably the most militarily significant position on the globe with our proximity to potential adversaries and vast stores of abundant natural resources.

If the Navy Seals seek cold water, extreme tidal changes, multi-variant currents, low visibility, complex underwater terrain, climate and rigorous land terrain to conduct their special operations exercises, we invite you to come *North to Opportunity*.

Since 1987 we have hosted the Naval Special Warfare Center on Spruce Cape in Kodiak, Alaska. This training plays a critical role to ensure a well-rounded special operative. The extreme weather of Alaska provides opportunities to test sailors and give them firsthand knowledge of rigorous Arctic conditions, subzero temperatures, hurricane-force winds, iced up equipment, and blizzards. Formulating an evolving arctic strategy in a real-world environment will give our nation's elite fighting force the edge compared to other countries.

We salute any and all Navy SEAL training in Alaska and look forward to welcoming you in person!

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Mike Dunleavy, written in a cursive style.

Mike Dunleavy
Governor

cc: Admiral Michael Gilday, Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy