March 16, 2020

The Honorable Natasha von Imhof  The Honorable Bert Stedman
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee  Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature  Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 516  State Capitol, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Jennifer Johnston  The Honorable Neal Foster
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee  Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature  Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 511  State Capitol, Room 505
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: FY2020 Supplemental Budget Amendment HB 234/SB 174

Dear Finance Committee Co-Chairs,

Enclosed, please find four amendments to the supplemental budget, three of which relate to COVID-19. The COVID-19 supplemental amendments include additional State funding for the Department of Health and Social Services Emergency Operations Center (EOC) costs, grants to communities for prevention and response activities, and Federal authority for the stimulus package that is currently working its way through Congress to address economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. Anticipated EOC costs include housing and transportation services for individuals impacted by COVID-19, medical/protective equipment, communications support, and additional staffing needs. Under AS 37.05.315, the grants to communities will be issued by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development with priority given to the communities with the largest share of cruise ship traffic. The remaining supplemental amendment is related to judgments and settlements. Thank you for your consideration of these budget amendments.

Sincerely,

Neil Steininger
Director

Enclosures

cc: Pat Pitney, Director, Legislative Finance Division
Suzanne Cunningham, Director, Governor’s Legislative Office