



March 6, 2024

Senate Resource Committee

House Joint Resolution 20 Public Testimony

Co-chair Bishop, co-chair Giessel, and members of the Senate Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. For the record, my name is Kati Capozzi and I serve as the president and CEO of the Alaska Chamber. I testify today in support of House Joint Resolution 20.

The Alaska Chamber was founded in 1953 and is Alaska's most diverse statewide business advocacy organization. Our mission is to promote a healthy business environment in Alaska. The Chamber has more than 700 members and represents businesses of all sizes and industries from across the state, directly representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

The Chamber has a longstanding Federal Priority to support oil and gas exploration and development in Alaska's federal areas, including in the National Petroleum Reserve or NPR-A. If approved, the proposed BLM rule would have significant negative impacts on the permit approval process—even for leases that existed prior to the rule's implementation. Given the harm to existing lease contracts as well as a clear conflict with the NPR-A's purpose to develop petroleum, this rule will almost certainly be subject to costly and lengthy litigation and serves as a massive disincentive to explore or produce any further in the NPR-A. This is costly for producers, but it will also result in negative economic impacts that will be felt throughout the entire state.

I reiterate our support for HJR20 and encourage swift passage.

We encourage swift and unanimous support of HJR20 and thank you for taking our testimony today.



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