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January 27, 2025

The Honorable Members of the Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
120 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

On behalf of the City and Borough of Juneau, I offer our support for House Joint Resolution 5, seeking reinstatement of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (SRS Act).

The SRS Act has significantly benefited Southeast Alaska, providing much-needed funding to offset revenue losses from reduced timber harvesting on federal lands. Rural communities like ours have historically depended on payments made to sustain critical public services and infrastructure. The program's expiration in January 2025 poses a significant challenge for local governments already facing fiscal constraints. Reinstating and making this funding mechanism permanent would provide long-term stability and security for communities heavily impacted by federal land ownership.

Thank you for your efforts to urge Congress to take swift action to reauthorize the SRS Act retroactively and make its funding mechanism permanent. I strongly support this undertaking. Your advocacy is critical to maintaining the prosperity and resilience of Alaska's rural communities.

Sincerely,

Beth Weldon  
Mayor of the City and Borough of Juneau

Cc: The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Nick Begich, U.S. Representative