



May 5, 2023

Representative Jesse Sumner, Chair
House Labor and Commerce Committee

Re: House Bill 143, Advanced Recycling and Facilities

Dear Chair Sumner, and members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee,

The Alaska Chamber (the Chamber) writes in support of House Bill 143, an Act relating to the Department of Environmental Conservation; relating to advanced recycling and advanced recycling facilities; relating to waste; and providing for an effective date.

The Alaska Chamber was founded in 1953 and is Alaska's largest 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, representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

The Chamber has a formal policy position to modernize the regulatory frameworks for advanced recycling technologies. HB143 puts into place a regulatory framework that would allow Alaska to participate in the advanced recycling industry which in turn would create jobs, revenue, and economic activity for the state.

Advanced plastics recycling, also called chemical recycling, refers to several different technologies that convert post-use plastics into their original building blocks, to produce new plastics, chemicals, and other valuable products. Advanced recycling can decrease the amount of plastic that ends up in landfills and in the environment as pollution. Advanced recycling provides the ability to remake "hard-to-recycle" plastics which are often missed in mechanical (traditional) recycling.

As of March 2023, 22 other states have passed laws to regulate advanced recycling facilities as manufacturing – not solid waste facilities. These modernized regulations can help scale advanced recycling and accelerate a circular economy for plastics.

In closing, the Chamber supports HB143 and encourages swift passage of this straightforward and good for business bill. Thank you for considering the Alaska Chamber's comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kati Capozzi'.

Kati Capozzi
President and CEO



471 West 36th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503



Office (907) 278-2722
Fax (907) 278-6643



www.alaskachamber.com
info@alaskachamber.com