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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Alaska Miners Association Celebrates Signing of Mineral Tenure Bill**

Anchorage, AK – Today, SB155, Exploration and Mining Rights, was signed into law by Governor Michael J. Dunleavy.

SB155, passed by the Alaska Legislature on March 27, addresses long-standing issues with mining claims statutes that were penalizing hard working, well-intentioned miners. The Legislation was a product of several years of collaboration between AMA, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and members of the Senate.

#### [Senate Bill 155:](#)

- Clarifies qualifications for exploration and mining rights;
- Improves the legal process for miners;
- Makes it easier to locate interest in Alaska lands;
- Allows miners to correct mineral interest locations;
- Establishes a better procedure for statements of annual labor;
- Outlines a “due process” procedure for declaring mining claims invalid; and
- Requires express permission from unpatented federal mining claim holders on state selected lands.

AMA Executive Director Deantha Crockett celebrated the bill’s signing, stating, “Finally, the resolution to the issues that were resulting in heartbreaking loss of claims, investment, and years of hard work by our miners is in statute. I am so grateful to the working group who poured hours of their time into crafting the right solutions, the Legislators that made this bill a priority, and the Governor for fixing our broken mineral tenure law.”

The Alaska Miners Association looks forward to working with DNR on corresponding regulations and ensuring certainty for Alaska’s miners moving forward.

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