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February 3, 2022

Senator Robert Myers, Chair  
Senate Transportation Committee  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99811-0500  
*Sent via email*

Re: Support for SB150, Truck Driver Appreciation Day

Dear Senator Myers and Members of the Committee:

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) writes to express support for SB150, Truck Driver Appreciation Day.

AMA is a professional membership trade organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry in Alaska. We are composed of more than 1,400 members that come from eight statewide branches: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks, Haines, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan/Prince of Wales, and Nome. Our members include individual prospectors, geologists, engineers, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, and major mining companies, Alaska Native Corporations, and the contracting sector that supports Alaska's mining industry.

In 2013, Alaska Mining Day was established in law *"to recognize and honor the intrepid individuals and industry that played an enormous role in settling and developing the territory and the state and that continue to contribute to the economy of the state."* The law allowed for each May 10 to be celebrated through suitable observances and exercises by civic groups and the public. Today we greatly appreciate the opportunity to celebrate Alaska's miners on an annual basis.

We feel the same about truck drivers. As an industry that moves our product and receives the goods and services we need through transportation, truck drivers are near and dear to our hearts, as they are to all Alaskans. Truck drivers should be celebrated every day, and we appreciate your introducing and hearing this bill to give tribute to this important profession.

Thank you for considering our supportive comments.

Deantha Skibinski  
Executive Director