



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Health
ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING

P.O. Box 110693
Juneau, AK 99811-0693
Main: 907.465.3250
Fax: 907.465.1398

January 4, 2024

Trustees,

As the Executive Director of the Alaska Commission on Aging, I write to voice my respect for the current and past decisions of the trustees regarding the charter. I do, however, agree with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Trustees' previous decision to maintain the operational authority affirmed last year for the CEO (\$100,000). Given the size of the Trust, this level of autonomy is essential for efficient management.

This delegation of authority not only streamlines processes but also reflects a trust in the expertise and judgment of the Trust's leadership. Philosophically, this approach aligns with the principles of responsible governance and fiduciary duty, where strategic oversight is balanced with operational autonomy.

Allowing the operations team to have the flexibility to manage smaller-scale financial decisions without requiring board demonstrates a respectful understanding of organizational dynamics. It acknowledges that empowering those closest to the day-to-day operations with decision-making authority leads to more agile and responsive management. This, in turn, enhances the Trust's ability to fulfill its mission more effectively.

We believe that such a level of trust and autonomy is crucial for the smooth functioning of any organization, especially one as vital as the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. It is a testament to the confidence we have in the Trustees and the leadership to make prudent decisions that align with the Trust's goals and values.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the welfare of Alaskan beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Haghayeghi".

Jon Haghayeghi