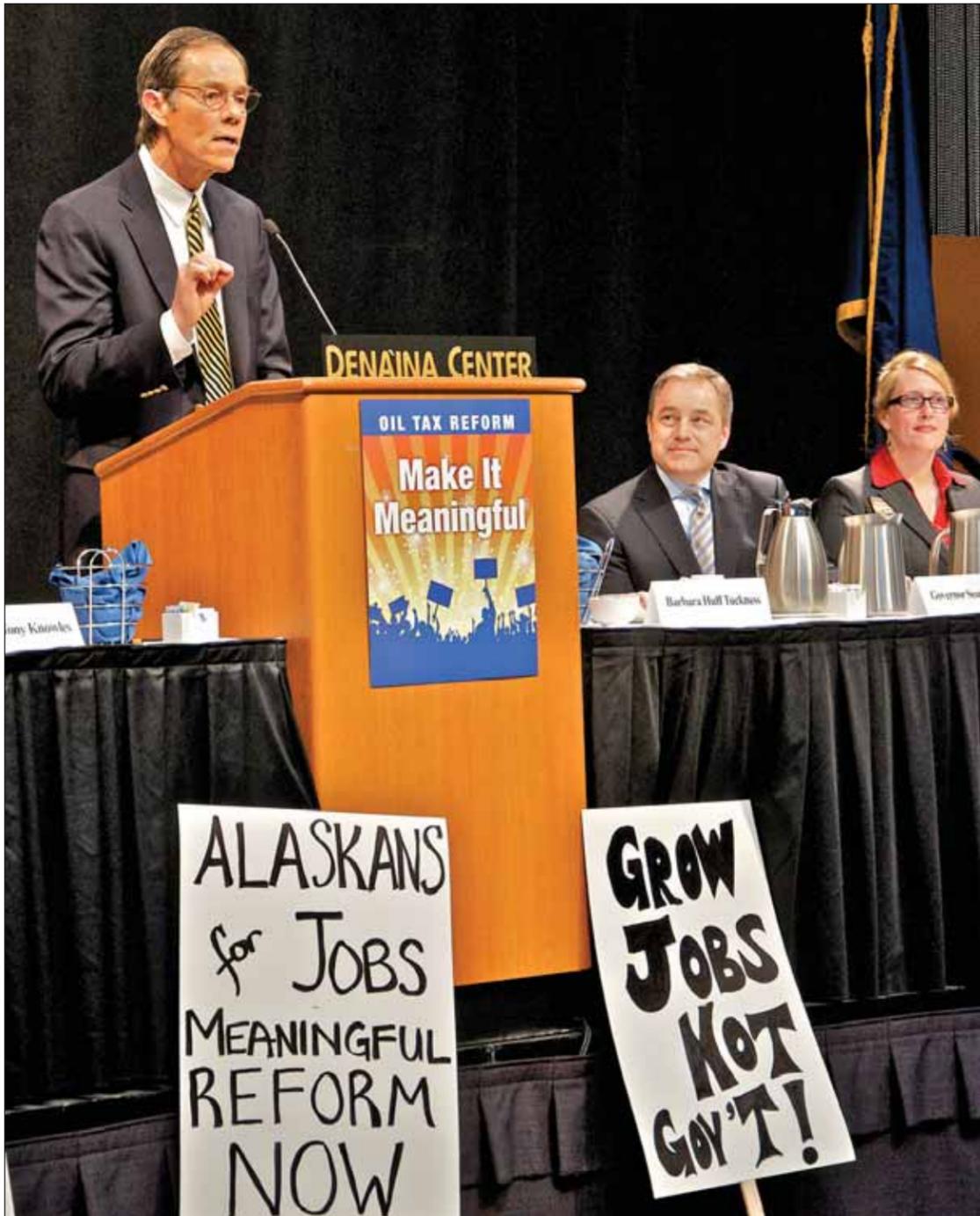


MAY 2013



# BUSINESS to BUSINESS

## Message from the President: Elections Matter



By Rachael Petro

If you have ever doubted the value of casting your ballot, wondering whether or not it makes a difference — doubt no more. Legislators elected by Alaskans last November converged on Juneau and passed a slew of pro-business legislation.

The newly seated 28th Alaska Legislature hit the ground running in January and finished its 90-day sprint in mid-April having passed over 70 percent of legislation supported by the Alaska Chamber.



Petro

### Third Time's a Charm

The single biggest issue tackled by the legislature this year was oil tax reform. This issue has been our top priority since the Fall 2010 and has also dominated discussion in each of the past three legislative sessions. While we *hoped* the third time would prove the charm — we *worked* hard along with our members and the legislature to make it so.

Senate Bill 21 (SB 21), while not perfect, improves Alaska's position in the oil and gas market significantly. The Governor's oil tax reform bill began making its way through five legislative committees very first week of session. SB 21 passed on the final day of session having earned support by 65 percent of the legislature.

Given the state's dependence on oil production, it was good to finally witness general consensus among legislators that pipeline throughput decline was an issue that could no

longer wait to be addressed. Persistence matters. Elections matter.

SB 21 is truly the product of a robust process of compromise. In addition to the consistent hue and cry from across Alaska for the past three years, the Alaska Chamber along with many others, testified on different versions of SB 21 five times *this year* as it wound its way through the process.

Passage of a more competitive tax structure is already showing promise of bearing fruit. ConocoPhillips Alaska and Repsol recently announced new finds, expanded exploration and expanded production projects. Taxes matter.

Elections matter.

It is unfortunate that there are some Alaskans who are not interested in seeing this new economic activity and have filed a referendum to repeal SB 21. The Alaska Chamber will continue to advocate for Alaska's economic future and fight to preserve Alaska's place in the world market.

### Pro-business Progress

While the legislature spent the majority of its time on oil tax reform, many other business issues were discussed and advanced. In fact, 24 of the 34 pieces of legislation supported by the Alaska Chamber passed in the *first year* of the two-year 28th Alaska Legislature (see page 2).

Take a look at the variety of common sense, pro-business legislation that passed this year in

See *Elections*, Page 2

Former Gov. Tony Knowles speaks in favor of oil tax reform during a March 2012 rally as Gov. Sean Parnell looks on.

PHOTO/FRANK FLAVIN

## Message from the chair: Chamber offers more than advocacy

By Renee Schofield

Alaska Chamber offers many benefits in addition to its mission to promote a positive business environment in Alaska.

As you may have noticed in the "Letter from the President," the Alaska Chamber is active in changing the business environment through its advocacy efforts, but there is much more that it offers.

As you will read about in this issue, the Alaska Chamber also events that allow the membership access to educational opportunities, networking and the ability to tell others about business in Alaska.

The recent Pacific Northwest Outreach Trip allowed the attendees to network with each other at social and business events as well with members of the business community in Seattle and Tacoma.

During the trip, the delegation also had the opportunity to tell Tacoma-Pierce County and the Seattle Metropolitan Chambers of Commerce about barriers to a successful Alaska economy such as the attempt by activists, federal departments and some elected officials to limit economic op-

portunities through onerous regulation and ~~even~~ attempts to cancel resource development in our state.



Schofield

The Alaska Chamber membership has adopted many legislative positions that address these issues and active legislative advocacy is one part of a solution, but helping to educate our friends in the Pacific Northwest is also an important part of this process.

By educating business leaders in Washington about the importance of Alaska's economy to theirs and how decision made in their state can af-

fect our economy, the Alaska Chamber is a much needed advocate for these issues abroad.

Finally, the Alaska Chamber also offers in-state events such as the upcoming Alaska Business Week, a Seward outreach trip in July and the annual conference, which will be held in Fairbanks this October.

I strongly encourage you to join us for these great events filled with opportunities to network, educate ourselves and others about Alaska business, advocate for a positive business environment in Alaska and ultimately have fun doing it.

Get involved today!

Visit us on the Web at [www.alaskachamber.com](http://www.alaskachamber.com).

# Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Legislative Accomplishments

## 2013 — 1st Year of 28th Alaska Legislature



### Legislation Passed

#### 1. HB 4 – In-State Gasline Development Corporation

Allows the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation (AGDC) to advance an in-state pipeline to the construction stage.

#### 2. HB 9 – Secured Transactions and Funds Transfers

Adopts Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) reforms made in 2010 into Alaska Law. The reforms govern secured transactions and personal property ensuring interstate secured transactions and fund transfers continue smoothly.

#### 3. HB 15 – Commercial Motor Vehicle Requirements

Re-defined the definition of intrastate commercial vehicle by raising the weight threshold from 10,000 to 14,000 pounds, which relieves many small business owners from unnecessary government regulation.

#### 4. HB 30 State Agency Performance Audits

Restores regular performance reviews of State of Alaska programs and agencies that ended in 1983. Given the enormous growth of the Alaska state budget over the last decade and the need for fiscal restraint, HB 30 provides an important tool to policy makers.



Alaska Chamber members visit State Capital to make their voice heard.

PHOTO/FRANK FLAVIN

#### 5. HB 46 – Waive CDL Skill Test for Certain Veterans

Directs the Alaska Department of Administration to adopt regulations mirroring the new federal law that allows states to waive the road skills test for recent veterans who gained driving experience in uniform. This will ease the transition of service members into the private sector workforce.

#### 6. HB 56 – Passenger Vehicle Rental Tax

Removes the 10% tax on motorcycle rentals in Alaska that was unintentionally included in a 2003 bill on passenger vehicle rental taxes.

#### 7. HB 57 – Entity Transaction Act

Conforms to the Uniform Law Commissioners' Model Entity Transaction Act (META). This legislation facilitates transactions between more than one form of entity, improve the existing business climate in Alaska, and help reduce

unnecessary administrative and legal burdens currently imposed on Alaska companies.

#### 8. HB 76 (SB 26) – Unemployment; Electronic Filing of Labor Information

Brings the State into compliance with federal law and improves the ability for the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to collect

*See Accomplishments, Page 3*

## Elections Continued from Page 1

this edition of Business to Business. Senator Cathy Giessel's SB 7 revised Alaska's corporate tax code, which hadn't been touched for 30 years. The new code rewards start up and small businesses by exempting those with revenue of under \$25,000 from corporate income tax. It also levels out the existing rates.

Representative Dan Saddler's HB 46 waives the commercial road skills test for recent military veterans who have the applicable driving experience gained while serving their country. This eases the transition of our service members into the private workforce and gives the business community access to qualified Alaska workers.

The list of accomplishments from this year's session goes on and on. Elections matter.

This year's accomplishments in Juneau are particularly significant when you recognize that there were many issues resolved this session that have lingered in the past. Senator Anna Fairclough's procurement reform bill, preserving Alaska based business preferences when all other things are equal, finally passed after failed attempts in both the 26th and 27th Legislatures.

Another example, demonstrating that elections matter, is the entity transaction act. The act streamlines transactions between entities and conforms with nationwide standards improving Alaska's business climate. The act, HB 57, sponsored by Representative Lindsey Holmes was introduced and passed this year.

Interestingly, this exact same

pro-business piece of legislation was introduced by former Senator Joe Paskavan in the 27th Legislature as SB 101. Even with a majority of Senators signed on as cosponsors SB 101 never made it to the Senate floor for a vote. One can speculate why a majority member's bill, supported by a majority of the body didn't move. Ultimately the conclusion is the same: there's a fundamental problem. A problem which seems to have been fixed by November's election.

When a body is so paralyzed it can't move forward on a no-nonsense bill which clearly has enough support to pass, there's a problem. Leadership matters. Elections matter.

### Improving Alaska's Business Climate

Of the legislation we supported this year there are a dozen or so which did not make it across the finish line (see above). and there will likely be more pro-business bills introduced in the second year of the 28th Legislature which will earn our support.

The success of our legislative agenda this year is truly remarkable, in no small part due to the pro-active actions taken by Alaska Chamber members who advanced a position for support at the Legislative Policy Forum, participated in the Legislative Fly-In, testified in committee, participated in the Legislative Affairs Committee, alerted staff to anti-business legislation, and elected pro-business legislators.

Actions matter. Elections Matter. Working together we can continue to improve Alaska's business climate!

## SAVE THE DATE

## 2013 RURAL OUTREACH

## JULY 9-10

## SEWARD, AK

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Motor Coach Trip to Seward
- Windsong Lodge
- Seward Welcome Reception
- Icicle Seafood Tour
- Cruise Ship Terminal Tour
- Aurora Energy Coal Terminal Tour
- Fox Island Dinner Cruise
- Seward Pub Crawl
- Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery
- AVTEC Marine Academy
- Alaska Chamber Board Meeting
- AKRR Aurora Car Return Trip to Anchorage

\*Early Registration \$475 - Ends June 31st  
Includes Windsong Lodge, Motor Coach to Seward from Anchorage,  
Breakfast and Lunch, All Tours, Fox Island Dinner Cruise  
and AKRR Aurora Car to Anchorage from Seward

[www.AlaskaChamber.com](http://www.AlaskaChamber.com)

\* Early registrants will be entered into a drawing for a IPAD Mini

# Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Legislative Session Recap

~~Successful legislative session achieves reform for increased oil production and reduction of energy costs to communities~~

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce (Alaska Chamber) commends the legislature on their successful efforts to grow Alaska's economy while helping communities with energy price relief.

Two of the Alaska Chamber's top state legislative priorities were successfully tackled during the legislative session with the passage of SB 21, oil tax reform, and HB 4, the Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline (ASAP) project.

The Alaska Chamber has spent the past several years working to expand the Alaska economy and protect jobs for Alaskans by promoting reason-

able but effective tax reform for the oil industry, the largest economic driver in the state.

As members made it clear by voting for oil tax reform as a priority the last three years, they believe keeping the pipeline full is the most important issue facing Alaska today.

With the passage of SB 21, the state of Alaska is one step closer to a vibrant economic future.

Along with SB 21, HB 4 not only moves Alaska forward in regards to affordable energy, it also has the potential to expand the economy by offering consistent, reasonably priced energy for Alaska citizens and businesses.

In addition to the immediate effect such a project would create, it also has the potential to expand business

in the state through possible "end-of-line" business opportunities. The Alaska Chamber membership chose to directly address the high cost of energy as a legislative priority and HB 4 is part of that initiative.

"While the Alaska Chamber counts the passage of both bills as a positive step forward for Alaska, there still is a lot of work ahead of us.

"We have 23 other positions that we hope to address during the interim and next session," says Renee Schofield, Alaska Chamber Board Chair.

She goes on to say, "I think the passage of SB 21 is a positive change in our tax policy towards Alaska's biggest economic driver and that HB 4, although not directly affecting my region, will in the long term benefit all

Alaskans."

Rachael Petro, President and CEO of the Alaska Chamber, points out, "The passage of meaningful tax reform is a crucial component for Alaska's economic health.

"Rather than allow the tax changes passed in SB 21 to bear fruit over the next few years, plans are already being made by some to return to the onerous ACES tax structure.

"The business community will continue to advocate for Alaska's future and fight to preserve Alaska's competitive place in the world market."

A complete list of the 2013/14 positions and legislation that the Alaska Chamber supports are available on the Alaska Chamber website under "Advocacy."

## Accomplishments Continued from Page 2

fraudulent claims and allows electronic filing of information with the department. Also allows the Commissioner to reduce the increase in Unemployment tax for employers and employees in years the UI Trust Fund's solvency is not at risk.

### 9. HB 80 (SB 29) – Cruise Ship Wastewater Discharge Permits

Allows the Department of Environmental Conservation to issue wastewater treatment system permits in a manner that is consistent with other industries.

### 10. HB 84 – Military Training Credit/Temporary License

Requires the Division of Professional Licensing, University of Alaska and vocational educational facilities to examine the credentials of related military experience and credit the military experience toward educational and/or licensing requirements easing the transition of service members into the private sector workforce.

### 11. HJR 5 – Oppose Genetically Engineered Salmon

Opposes the United States FDA's preliminary finding in relation to genetically engineered salmon, and urges further examination of genetically engineered salmon prior to allowing them to be grown, harvested and sold in the United States.

### 12. HJR 6 – BLM Legacy Oil Well Clean Up/Awareness

Urges the federal Bureau of Land Management to clean up legacy wells drilled between 1944-1981 and to open new areas of the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska (NPR-A) to oil and gas leasing.

### 13. SB 1 (HB 115) – Alaska Mining Day

Establishes May 10 of each year as Alaska Mining Day honoring Alaska's mining history and future.

### 14. SB 2 (HB 114) – Interstate Mining Compact & Commission

Authorizes the State of Alaska to join and participate in the Interstate Mining Compact Commission which serves as the spokesperson for mining state in Washington D.C. and works to

represent the member states to executive branch agencies.

### 15. SB 7 (HB 68) – Corporate Income Tax

Updates Alaska's thirty-year-old corporate tax code using the U.S. CPI inflation rate distributing the tax liability more evenly. Eliminates taxes for businesses with earnings of \$25,000 or less.

### 16. SB 12 – Public Procurement

Updates the State of Alaska's procurement code and protects several Alaskan procurement preferences that advantage Alaskan-based businesses over outside companies when all other factors are equal.

### 17. SB 21 (HB 72) – Oil & Gas Production Tax

Reforms the State of Alaska's oil tax structure by eliminating the steep progressivity of the ACES tax system increasing Alaska's competitiveness in the worldwide oil and gas market.

### 18. SB 27 (HB 78) – Regulations of Dredge & Fill Activities

Allows the Administration, through the State of Alaska's Departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, to evaluate and seek primacy for administering the 404 dredge and fill program.

### 19. SB 63 – Contracts for Preparation of Ballots

Levels the procurement playing field so that all businesses may compete for a state contract with the State of Alaska's Division of Elections.

### 20. SB 65 (HB 102) – Retirement Plans; Roth IRAs, Probate

Updates State of Alaska laws pertaining to estate planning, trusts, retirement plan assets, and IRAs, and conforms Alaska law to Uniform Trust Code. Ensures Alaska remains a premiere state in which to establish trusts and estates.

### 21. SB 86 (HB 188) – Approve Flint Hills Royalty Oil Sale

Approved contract to Flint Hills Refinery for state royalty oil sales that ensures there is a stable supply of crude oil for refined products within the state.

### 22. SJR 2 – Limit Federal Inter-

### vention in State

Commends actions taken the State of Alaska Administration to protect the state from federal government incursion into the care and management of state resources and promote economic prosperity. Urges Congress and the President to limit federal government overreach into management of state resources.

### 23. SJR 3 (HJR 7) – Endorsing ANWR Leasing

Urges Congress to open a portion of ANWR to oil and gas exploration and development.

### 24. SJR 8 (HJR 9) – Mining/Processing of Rare Earth Elements

Urges State of Alaska agencies and Congress to expedite consideration of permits required to increase exploration, extraction, processing and production of rare earth elements.

### Legislation Remaining

#### 1. HB 32 – Lines of Business on Business License

Allows purchase of a single business license for multiple lines of business.

#### 2. HB 47 – Injunction Security: Industrial Operation

Requests the court consider the wages and benefits of workers as well as payments to contractors when an industrial operation is shut down by a suit brought by public interest litigants.

#### 3. HB 77 (SB 26) – Land Disposals/Exchanges: Water Rights

Modernizes, clarifies and eliminates duplicative processes as they relate to the Department of Natural Resources permitting.

#### 4. HB 79 (SB28) – Susitna State Forest: Sale of Timber

Creates a Susitna State Forest which would allow timber harvesting and other activities to Alaskans.

#### 5. HB 123 – Dedicated Transportation Fund/Public Transportation

Defines an Alaska Transportation Fund.

#### 6. HB 140 – Notice for Regulation Adoption

Requires costs to business and other state agencies be estimated during the adoption process for State administrative code and

regulations.

#### 7. HJR 10 – Constitutional Amendment: Transportation Fund

Allows Alaskans an opportunity to vote to re-instate a dedicated fund for transportation infrastructure.

#### 8. HJR 16 – National Ocean Policy

Urges Alaska be exempted from the far-reaching federal policy to manage and zone activities in marine and coastal areas.

#### 9. SB 55 – Insurer's Use of Credit Scores

Allows insurers to consider a consumer's credit information at renewal without the specific request of the consumer bringing Alaska's statute into conformance with the other 49 states and improving the competitiveness of Alaska insurance policies.

#### 10. SCR 2 – Acquire Tongass National Forest Land

Urges the governor to acquire land in the Tongass National Forest from the United States government by purchase or negotiation or by seeking amendment to the Alaska Statehood Act.

**IT TOOK 124 YEARS TO WRITE THIS THANK-YOU NOTE.**



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# 2nd Alaska Hackathon provides many benefits to Anchorage, state



PHOTO/ANCHORAGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.

The 2nd Alaska Hackathon was a great success with over 30 programmers and 10 different non-profits participating and generating a wide range of really amazing projects.

The Alaska Chamber recently participated in the 2nd Annual Alaska Hackathon as a sponsor with Ryan Makinster, Communications and Events Director also attending. The event was an opportunity for programmers, developers, business analysts, marketing specialists and other to donate a weekend working together to create new software solutions for non-profit organizations.

Many non-profits don't have the resources for a dedicated development team, but there are many talented developers willing to give their time to make our home a better place through better use of data.

The second Alaska Hackathon was a great success with over 30 programmers and 10 different non-profits participating in the event and generating a wide range of really amazing projects over the weekend.

Here is just a sample of the things these amazing individuals managed to come up with in just one weekend:

- **Mountain View Art Walk App, Anchorage**

**Community Land Trust:** Allows users to locate and scan Mountain View's public art and architecture with their phone or tablet bringing up additional information on the piece such as videos, history, artist biographies and more! This app was developed using Augmented Reality technology and local data provided by the Anchorage Community Land Trust

- **Weed Warrior App, Anchorage Park Foundation:** Coders used geolocation data to allow Anchorage residents to identify and remove invasive species from Anchorage public parks with the help of their iPhone. Photos of suspected invasive weeds can be uploaded for experts to analyze and participants can tag the areas that they have already cleared of weeds.

- **Donor Contact Database, Out North:** This tool allows Out North to better track donor interactions and contact information online, allowing them to better manage and communicate with their supporters. It also provided them with templates and forms to make donating

and participating in Out North projects easier both for the user and for Out North staff.

All of these collaborative projects are going to have a major impact on the community and its non-profits, but Hackathons also serve other important functions:

- These events are an excellent opportunity for local companies to scout tech talent.
- These types of events show the rest of the world that Alaska is a place that has a vibrant technology and innovation community.
- This also allows local coders to develop and hone their skills and meet others that share their interests.
- Most importantly, events like this help to build a coding community here in Alaska that is engaged and passionate about our state.

High-tech industries, such as software development, are critical for the growth and diversification of Alaska's economy and through its sponsorship the Alaska Chamber helps make our a better place to live and work.

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# New Federal Plan Is Bad For Business, Bad For Alaska

By Rachael Petro

It is no secret that businesses in Alaska are facing increasing challenges. Between rising fuel costs, domestic and global competition, decreased supply in the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, and burdensome federal regulations, those who live and work in the state fully understand the potential pitfalls to achieving the economic future that all Alaskans seek to secure.

Simply put, the people of Alaska cannot afford new policies that further restrict our ability to access and develop the state's natural resources.

With more coastline than all the other states combined, Alaska's status as a maritime state makes it particularly vulnerable to efforts that seek to restrict marine activities.

Unfortunately, the Obama administration's new National Ocean Policy appears to represent just such an initiative.

Through implementation of a zoning scheme known as "Coastal and

Marine Spatial Planning" that is overseen by the Washington, DC-based National Ocean Council, human activities deemed incompatible with each other or the environment could be excluded from significant swaths of land both on and offshore.

Under the final implementation plan, "marine plans" are to be developed by 2017, with federal agencies in regions choosing not to participate told to "identify and address," among other things, "priority... ocean management issues associated with marine planning..."

Make no mistake, despite language in the final implementation plan, this policy has been intended to lead to new regulations.

The Executive Order underpinning the entire effort adopted recommendations stating in part that implementation "would also require clear and easily understood requirements and regulations, where appropriate, that include enforcement as a critical component."

Implementation will also be costly and could drive scarce resources away from programs that support the ability of Alaskan businesses to operate and support our citizens and communities.

The federal officials who developed the policy pre-

Ocean Council last year said that federal agencies had been asked how existing resources can be repurposed to support this initiative.

Such concerns have been raised by countless citizens, businesses, and elected officials.

Here in Alaska, top state

in Alaska, already naming seven individuals from the Interior Department alone to take part in the effort.

The recent release of the Final Implementation Plan indicates that the administration intends to continue moving full steam ahead.

Indeed, recent decisions by the federal government to delay lease sales offshore Alaska to allow for more studies and move toward a "targeted" leasing approach in part to "reduce conflict" — one of the objectives of the coastal and marine spatial planning effort — indicate that the policy may already be harming the state.

Alaska's future is America's future.

Throwing up new obstacles to economic development will harm not only our state but the nation at large.

Let's stand together with one voice and tell the federal government that Alaskans simply cannot afford a new and costly layer of regulation and bureaucracy that piles on additional costs, delays, and uncertainty.

*Petro is the President and CEO of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce.*



Petro

Through implementation of a zoning scheme known as "Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning" that is overseen by the Washington, DC-based National Ocean Council, human activities deemed incompatible with each other or the environment could be excluded from significant swaths of land both on and offshore.

viously acknowledged that the zoning plan in particular "would require significant initial investments of both human and financial resources."

Importantly, the questions of who will make these significant investments and at what and whose cost remain unanswered.

In a disturbing acknowledgement, the National

leaders, the congressional delegation, and local officials from across the state have spoken out loud and clear on behalf of their constituencies about the need for the administration to change course.

Rather than heed the warning calls, the federal government has nonetheless pushed forward with coastal and marine spatial planning

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# Strong Connections Fostered by Chamber Delegation Visits

By Ryan Makinster  
 Communications and Events  
 Director, Alaska Chamber

Just as the State of Alaska has a long history with the Pacific Northwest, so does the Alaska Chamber.

Alaska has always been dependent on Seattle and Tacoma for most of its goods and in many ways its human capital as well. Beginning in the days of the gold rush and continuing today — if it needs to be imported, it comes from the Pacific Northwest.

From mining supplies and miners in the early days to vegetables, cars and entrepreneurs today, trade supplies Alaska and fuels its economic development. In turn, Alaska provides crude for refineries in the Pacific Northwest as well as young, talented and ambitious workers looking to expand their horizons.

It is these things, as well as geographic proximity, that bind the Pacific Northwest with Alaska. Similarly, the Alaska, Tacoma-Pierce County and Seattle Chambers of Commerce share a symbiotic goal of economic growth.

On April 30, The Alaska Chamber sent a delegation to the Pacific Northwest to continue a biennial tradition that exists to strengthen relationships with organizations, individuals and businesses that are closely linked to Alaska through our shared economies and trade.

As part of the trip, Alaska Chamber members met with the Tacoma-Pierce County and Seattle Chambers of Commerce to discuss shared issues and educate their members on the pillars of the Alaska economy. This included presentations by members of some of Alaska's most important industries: health-care, oil and gas, transportation, mining and tourism.

In addition, the Alaska Chamber met with Washington Business Week to discuss

their extensive education programs, which have already had an effect on Alaska and the Alaska Chamber. In previous trips to Washington the Alaska Chamber learned about the Washington Business Week program and working closely with the organization, developed the Alaska Business Week program.

The weeklong summer camp educates high school students about business, leadership and entrepreneurship. Young Alaskans from across the state will converge on the University of Fairbanks (UAF) campus June 1 to participate.

In a similar vein, event attendees learned more about an industry-driven, STEM-based curriculum called Core Plus. STEM programs focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics and have elements that could be replicated in Alaska. Core Plus is being introduced this year at 23 schools across the state of Washington, including 19 high schools and four middle schools. The curriculum covers soft and hard skills for advanced manufacturing and industries with similar skill and knowledge requirements.

Speakers included Bret Hinton with the Boeing Aerospace Academic Alignment Team. Bret designed the base of the curriculum with Boeing instructors. Another was Shep Siegel, the director of the engineering-oriented Project Lead the Way program for the states of Alaska and Washington.

The Alaska Chamber delegation also had the opportunity to visit many businesses that have a close relationship with Alaska. Members visited the Port of Tacoma, Carlile Transportation, TOTE, American Fast Freight and Vigor Shipyards.

A group not known to let a lot of work get in the way of a little fun also took in a Tacoma Rainier's game, a tour of Lemay-America's Car Museum



Makinster



PHOTO/FRANK FLAVIN

Alaska Chamber members enjoying a great opportunity for networking at a Seattle Mariners Game.

and enjoyed a Seattle Mariners game in a suite provided by Liberty Mutual Group.

And just as the Alaska Chamber realizes the importance of travelling to visit their business partners and sister organizations, the Tacoma-Pierce County and Greater Seattle Chambers of Commerce have made it a point to visit Alaska.

Delegations from our neighbors to the south are regular attendees of the Alaska Chamber Fall Conference. Through presentations and participation, they educate Alaska Chamber members on our shared issues and discuss ideas that are mutually beneficial for both regions.

Last October, the Tacoma-Pierce County and Greater Seattle Chambers were active in planning the event and participated in the Pacific Northwest Business Roundtable.

The roundtable, like its counterpart at the recent Pacific Northwest Trip, offered attendees the opportunity to learn about industries in Seattle and Tacoma that



PHOTO/FRANK FLAVIN

Pacific Northwest Business Roundtable participants meet before taking the stage.

have ties to Alaska and are an integral part of the shared Washington-Alaska economy. Moderated by Port of Tacoma Commissioner Don Meyer, the roundtable included panelists Fred Kiga of Vigor Industrial, Joe Plesha of Trident Seafood and Louise Bray with Schnitzer Steel.

The conference attendees also heard from other PNW speakers including Richard Berkowitz of the Transportation Institute, Glenn Reed of the Pacific Seafood Processors Association and Tom Pierson of the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce.

On October 15, the Alaska Chamber Fall Conference will convene in Fairbanks to discuss issues important to its members, the Alaska business community and its Pacific Northwest partners. A robust discussion of threats and opportunities to the respective economies of Washington and Alaska, as well as ideas to grow those economies, will hold an important place at the event. The close participation of all three chambers will help our states succeed.

More information on past and future events can be found at [www.AlaskaChamber.com](http://www.AlaskaChamber.com).

Visit us on  
 the Web at  
[www.alaska-chamber.com](http://www.alaska-chamber.com)

## Alaska State Chamber of Commerce

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## Welcome New Members

**Power Systems & Supply**  
6841 N. Tongass  
Suite 1  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
(907) 247-7772

**Bickford Pacific Group**  
308 G St.  
#317  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 632-1268  
<http://bickfordpacificgroup.org>

**Hilcorp Alaska LLC**  
3800 Centerpoint Drive  
Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Hilcorp is a company built on energy...the energy of our people and the energy we produce.

More importantly we're a company providing energy - Energy that keeps the lights on and helps in making America energy independent.

Hilcorp is the third-largest, privately-held exploration and production company in the United States.

Our success is a direct result of hard work and dedication to doing the right thing. Protecting the environment and ensuring a safe, healthy workplace are priority one for Hilcorp.

Throughout our operating areas, Hilcorp employees are working hard, creating value and giving back to our local communities.

Our operations proudly support over 1,000 American families by providing good paying jobs throughout the company.

Our expenditures and investments have a notable impact on our operating communities; supporting many local service providers and related small businesses within these areas and beyond.

Hilcorp's core values of Integrity, Urgency, Ownership, Alignment and Innovation are brought to bear on all aspects of our operations as we pursue our mission to develop energy that would otherwise be lost and strive to become the premier private energy company in the country.

Hilcorp — Providing energy made in America!

**Coastal Villages**  
711 H Street  
Suite 200  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 278-5151  
<http://www.coastalvillages.org>

Coastal Villages' mission is to provide the means for development of our communities by sensibly creating tangible, long-term opportunities that generate hope for all residents who want to fish and work. On behalf of the 20 member communities, CVRF has grown to be the largest seafood owner/operator headquartered in Alaska. CVRF is now able to take a broader

and balanced approach to managing our Kuskokwim Delta and Bering Sea seafood resources.

For our residents, CVRF must continue to protect our fisheries and our investments in these fisheries, grow in a strategic and sustainable manner, and remain adaptable to take advantage of all positive opportunities. Our investments in the Bering Sea, particularly the Pollock Fishery, enables CVRF to provide fishing opportunities in Salmon, Halibut, and Herring in our region.

**City of Houston**  
P.O. Box 940027  
Houston, AK 99694  
(907) 892-6869  
<http://www.houstonak.com>

**Richmond Steel Recycling Limited**  
4631 Edinburgh Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99502  
<http://www.simsmm.com>

**Medical Park Family Care, Inc.**  
2211 E. Northern Lights Blvd  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
(907) 279-8486  
<http://www.mpfcak.com>

Medical Park Family Care has been voted "Best of Alaska" & "#1 Physicians in Anchorage". We are locally owned and Doctor owned, and take great pride in bringing the finest medical services necessary for a high level of care for our patients. Our 14 Physicians (Medical Doctor's) work as a team to satisfy our purpose of Making A Positive Difference In Every Patient's Life.

We work hard to make that happen and trust that will be your experience with us. Our Mission is to be recognized as the best "Medical Home" in Alaska by 2014.

With an on-site lab and a variety of diagnostic tools most patients find they can complete their tests and evaluations in the same day, often leaving with a diagnosis and a plan for healthy living. Because family practice physicians are specialists in the person as a whole, our doctors are able to treat many different medical issues.

Our patients will always see a Medical Doctor (M.D.) and we are happy to work with individuals from birth to adult. We currently have 3 Female and 11 Male Physicians on staff. They all work together to ensure you receive the best medical care possible, with a personal touch.

**Diversified Investments & Insurance**  
306 Main Street  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
(907) 225-9805  
Alaska State Hospital and

**Nursing Association**  
1049 W. 5th Ave  
Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 646-1444  
<http://www.ashnha.com>

Our Vision:

A unified Association providing effective statewide leadership to address health care delivery challenges affecting all Alaskans.

Our Mission:

To be the premier provider advocate bringing unity to the health care community in addressing health care issues and to support our members' goal to improve Alaskan's health.

Our Values:

Integrity ... Excellence... Honesty... Trust... Teamwork... Innovation... Quality

**CI Energy Group – a division of the Canadian Institute**  
1329 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M5R2C4  
1-877-927-7936  
<http://www.alaskaoilandgascongress.com>

The Alaska Oil & Gas Congress provides the perfect opportunity to determine how your business can get involved in, and benefit from energy development in Alaska.

The 9th annual Alaska Oil & Gas Congress will bring together government, industry, Alaska Native and Canada's Northern Aboriginal leaders to discuss issues, updates and opportunities. Mark your calendar to join them on September 16-19 in Anchorage.

The week will be filled with dynamic dialogue on oil and gas project challenges, options and progress, in-state energy supply and policy development. Gain essential information on evolving energy policy to help you succeed in this changing environment.

**Bank of America**  
800 5th Ave  
34th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 358-8818

**Denali Brewing Company**  
13605 East Main Street  
Talkeetna, AK 99676  
(907) 733-2535

Denali Brewing Company is a locally owned micro-brewery located in Talkeetna, Alaska, in the heart of the upper Susitna Valley. At Denali Brewing Company we use only the finest ingredients to craft the kinds of honest beers you like to drink. Cheers!

Denali Brewing Company began as two dreams.

Ever since coming to Alaska from the fertile craft beer grounds of Oregon in 1996, general manager Sassan Mosanen just knew that Talkeet-

na was thirsty for a brewery of its own. During the ensuing years, he made several attempts at filling the obvious gap. Along the way he also built his own cabin up the tracks from town, established a successful construction company, and found time to homebrew on the side.

All the while, brewer Boe Barnett was living 250 miles north of Talkeetna, in the Goldstream Valley outside Fairbanks, Alaska. He was teaching English at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, writing and publishing poetry, and brewing more beer than any one person should ever be allowed to consume on his own.

He too had made several attempts at opening a local brewery. Ideas ranged from brewing in a little red cabin next to the main dog mushing trail through the heart of Goldstream Valley, to a more conventional operation located in the city's industrial zone. The idea of brewery in a hip little town like Talkeetna, however, was too good to pass up.

The current incarnation of Denali Brewing Company was created in December of 2007, when the two partners met over a keg of Boe's homebrewed pilsner.

Sassan spoke of his passion for the community of Talkeetna and how its proud, independent minded citizens had, for years, been yearning for a brewery of their own. Boe spoke of his desire to bridge the gap between beer geeks and regular folks who just like to drink beer.

Fast forward to late winter 2009. Boe and his family now call Talkeetna home. Denali Brewing Company has found its own home on Main Street in downtown Talkeetna. The dream of bringing craft beer to the northern Susitna Valley is

being turned into a reality. We look forward to sharing our dream with you during your next visit to Talkeetna, Denali National Park, or any of the other world-class attractions south-central Alaska has to offer.

**Alaska Rubber and Supply, Inc.**  
5811 Old Seward Highway  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
(907) 562-2200  
<http://www.alaskarubber.com>

Established in 1980, Alaska Rubber and Supply, Inc. moved to its current location in 1981 and in 2006 became 100% employee owned.

In December 2009, we opened a branch in Wasilla and also purchased Alaska Rubber and Rigging, Inc. in Fairbanks which gave us expanded capabilities and coverage in the state.

All of our locations have the manpower to serve you. There are currently more than 50 full-time employees within the Alaska Rubber Group.

All of our locations are retail and wholesale distributors of hose, fittings and related products and serve markets such as the oil, construction, mining, fishing and also government agencies.

Our Wasilla branch includes our Fluid Power Division, with hydraulic component sales and repair. The Fairbanks branch houses the Rigging Division which manufactures and tests custom wire rope assemblies, and supplies all other rigging associated products.

The longevity and experience of our staff is vital in providing the highest level of customer service. We take pride in our work and do our very best to find solutions to problems unique to Alaska's climate and logistical challenges.

# Save The Date! Plan To Attend!

## Outreach Trip

Seward, Alaska  
July 9-10, 2013

## Alaska Chamber Annual Conference

Fairbanks, Alaska  
October 15, 2013

## Alaska Chamber Policy Forum

Fairbanks, Alaska  
October 16, 2013

Mark your calendars and check our website for details, [www.alaskachamber.com](http://www.alaskachamber.com).