

AUGUST 2012



BUSINESS to BUSINESS



Panel of Kodiak business professionals discuss economic development issues during Kodiak Outreach Trip. See page 6 for more pictures.

Message from the President: Get active, stay active to support business and the Alaska economy

By Rachael Petro

As summer fades into fall, now is the time to redouble our efforts to secure Alaska's economic future by improving Alaska's business climate. Certainly not the easiest task, but one which remains the sole focus of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce. From the elections, to the upcoming Alaska Chamber Conference & Trade Show and Legislative Policy Forum, Alaska Chamber members have an opportunity to make a differ-

ence.

On Tuesday, Aug. 28, Alaskans will have an opportunity to improve Alaska's business climate by casting their ballots in favor of pro-business candidates and against anti-business ballot measures. It is possible that we may see a philosophical shift in the make up of the 28th Alaska Legislature. With 59 out of 60 state legislative seats up for election, now is the time for Alaskans concerned about the future of our state's economy to engage in the political process.

See Active, Page 2

Message from the Chair: Chamber events offer opportunity to make voices heard

By Renee Schofield

Dear Alaska Business Owner:

It's the middle of third quarter and where are you with your sales projections? Have you completed your goal list? Are there still things hanging out there that you wanted to do that you didn't? Why not?

As business owners we get caught up working "in" the business instead of "on" the business. Just what does that mean?

Working in the business is what you do, day-to-day, every day. You are the one greeting the clients, answering the phone, vacuuming the carpet. For some of you, this is a requirement while for others it is not. Many companies are engaged in different levels of this at different times, all the time. The one thing all companies have in common is the need to work ON the business.

If you have a desire to grow and produce more revenue, then you must work on your business. Often finding the time to do that is difficult, but one of the ways I have found to do that is to attend business events.

Attending an event allows me to visit with like-minded individuals, voice my opinion and support a common cause. Heck, I am even able to enjoy a little down time every now and then. One such opportunity was the Alaska Chamber Kodiak Outreach Trip, which I recently attended.

Through the hard work of the Alaska Chamber events committee, all attendees were able to attend programs we were able to learn from, meet new folks and explore new opportunities, which I thoroughly enjoyed. The forty attendees toured the Kodiak Launch Facility, the U.S. Coast Guard base, and the Pacific Seafood cannery. We dined in the wonderful restaurants of Kodiak and many of us stayed extra days, some planned and some unplanned, for shopping and exploring.

During this time the Chamber also held business meetings and educated members on Ballot Measure 1 that proposes to raise the property tax exemption limit and Ballot Measure 2, which would create a coastal zone management program. Both measures will be on the Aug. 28 ballot.

The Alaska Chamber has taken a strong position on each, using our position papers as the measuring stick, the development of which is another opportunity for members to work ON their business.

In October, Alaska Chamber members will gather in Anchorage for the Fall Conference & Trade Show (Oct. 2-3) and the Legislative Policy Forum (Oct. 4). The conference and tradeshow is a great opportunity for members and the public to learn about issues important to Alaska business as well as interact with the business community.

The Legislative Policy forum, open to members only, is a 1-day event where the body discusses and votes on the policy direction the Alaska Chamber will take in 2013. This is your opportunity let your voice be heard for the future of business in Alaska. It is an important part of chamber membership and allows us to affect the business climate in our great state. Remember, the Alaska Chamber operates on a one member, one vote system so this is your chance to be instrumental in next year's activities. Between these two events, the opportunity to network with other business owners and learn of their needs and offerings is immense. Taking the time to attend will be money well spent for Alaska business owners.



Schofield

In addition to educating members about the ballot issues on the primary, the Alaska Chamber has been actively working to let the broader public know how detrimental these two proposals could be for the business community. The public hearings across the state have been beneficial for people to learn more about coastal zone management and how it affects their business and I would highly encourage you to become and active participant. Not only will you learn more about these issues, but valuable information can also be gleaned by visiting with fellow business owners at the public hearings and at chamber lunch presentations.

These are just some of the great ways to work "ON" your business, while working "IN" your business. I would ask you to join me in Anchorage, Oct. 2-4 for the annual conference and legislative policy forum. While you're there take a moment and tell me how the Alaska Chamber can help you grow your business!

Save The Date! Plan To Attend!

We Mean Business! 53rd Annual Fall Conference & Trade Show

October 2-3, 2012

Annual Awards Gala

Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage

October 2, 2012

Legislative Policy Forum

Egan Center - Anchorage

October 4, 2012

Mark your calendars and check our website for details in the coming months, www.alaskachamber.com.

Shifting of tax burden doesn't lessen the impact

By Bob Maier

Executive Director, Alaska Manufactured Housing Association

One of the few absolutes throughout time is that the Royal Treasury must be filled. The only variable with that is whose ox will be gored for that purpose. Hence began the age old game of moving around one's assets to avoid taxation by the Crown.

Proposition One on the Aug. 28th Ballot will change the relevant State Statute to allow a local option to raise the residential property tax exemption from \$20,000 to \$50,000. It is being promoted as "property tax relief" but that clearly is not the case. Actually, tax collections are not reduced but are just shifted to other properties. Further, without a mirroring limitation on local mill

rates, Proposition One reveals itself to voters as nothing more than a cruel hoax.

There has been a lack of fiscal discussion concerning Proposition One. If passed there will be a negative effect on State revenue. Each separate taxing jurisdiction will be impacted differently. The effect of this residential exemption will be different in the Kenai Borough than the Mat Su Borough. People voting for Proposition One with the belief that they and their neighbors will see a reduction in property tax may be unpleasantly surprised. The true impact will not be known until it is fully implemented.

There has been a reasoned reluctance of our elected bodies to move in the direction of increasing the residential exemption. Each legislative session numerous bills are introduced to increase this exemption in

amounts up to \$100,000. None have ever passed. In 2010 the Anchorage Assembly voted 8 to 3 against placing an advisory vote on the April ballot asking the question if the residential exemption should be increased to \$50,000. Understanding the complexities and problems associated with this exemption, our elected officials across the political spectrum have taken a cautious approach to this issue.

Everyone needs to contribute their share towards the costs of government services provided by the community in which they choose to reside. Otherwise, people become anesthetized to the rising cost of local government because they are not paying that burden. Gimmicks like Proposition One hide the true costs of government from those whom government should serve.

Writing the "Statement in Opposition" for Proposition One for the Division of Elections pamphlet Marty McGee, the Assessor for the Municipality of Anchorage states the following:

"While an increase in the residential exemption sounds good, in reality it would benefit a few people at the expense of many homeowners, renters and all of the business owners in the community. This is not a good bargain and is not good public policy. The community should vote no on this proposal and should continue to work with their elected officials to limit the growth of the Municipal budget or seek alternative revenue sources as the best means for meaningful property tax relief."

We all want our taxes to go down. Ballot Proposition One is not the vehicle to accomplish that. Vote NO on One.

Ryan Makinster and Al Cramer bring years of experience to the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce

The Alaska Chamber of Commerce recently named Ryan Makinster as communications and events director and Al Cramer as membership representative.

Ryan brings more than 12 years of public relations, communications and government relations experience to the Alaska Chamber. His primary role is to oversee communications, public relations, advertising and event functions. Ryan is also responsible for

website development and social media initiatives. In addition, he assists with investor relations and government advocacy.

Prior to joining the Alaska State Chamber, Ryan was a partner in Fine Point, a local advertising firm. He previously served as Communications Director for the Anchorage Economic Development Corp. and as a legislative and committee



Cramer



Makinster

Before that, he spent 5 years in hospitality and tourism marketing in Seattle. He holds a bachelor's degree in Communications from the Edward R. Murrow School of Communications at Washington State University.

Al brings 22 years of Alaska management, sales, and customer service experience to the organization.

Prior to joining the Alaska Chamber, Al spent the

last 7 years in the hospitality industry, most recently as general manager of the Parkwood Inn. He and his wife, Vivian have 2 grown children; Richard who now makes Maui home, and Samantha who lives in Chignik Lagoon with her husband and 3 daughters. Al holds a BA in History from the University of Notre Dame, and an MS in Systems Management from the University of Southern California.

Active Continued from Page 1

In an effort to help voters cut through the rhetoric, the Alaska Chamber partnered with like-minded business organizations to produce both the Alaska Business Report Card and the Alaska Business Questionnaire. Both are tools available to help you cast your ballot in favor of growing Alaska's economy.

Take a minute before heading to the ballot booth to review your current legislator's report card grade (See graphic, page 5) and Alaska Business Questionnaire responses (See page 7). These tools are also available online at: www.prosperity-alaska.org

The two ballot issues before voters will both, if passed, seriously harm the Alaska economy. The Aug. 28 ballot asks Alaskans to raise the property tax exemption limit and to reinstate a coastal zone management program.

Ballot Measure 1 seeks to allow municipalities to increase property tax exemptions from \$20,000 to \$50,000 while also allowing adjustments for cost of living increases. Passage of Ballot Measure 1 would, in effect,

shift the current tax burden from homeowners to businesses. The Alaska Chamber opposes all new unfunded property tax exemptions in the state of Alaska and this is no exception.

Ballot Measure 1 will negatively affect Alaska's business climate. I encourage you to Vote No On Ballot Measure 1.

Ballot Measure 2 would create an Alaska Coastal Management Program. While the idea of local communities having

more say in how to manage coastal resources sounds reasonable, this particular ballot initiative is so vague and poorly worded that the resulting unintended consequences may cripple development. At 15 pages long, Ballot Measure 2 would create additional bureaucratic red tape that will serve only to delay and block resource development projects.

As if that isn't bad enough the initiative's wording is so unclear, even private property owners living miles inland may find themselves grappling with rules and regulations imposed by unelected officials living hundreds of miles away.

Imagine trying to install a

new dock at a lakeside cabin and being told "no" by a panel of political appointees from another community. The litigation and constitutional challenges that will result from the initiative's passage is another reason to vote no on Ballot Measure 2.

After Tuesday's primary election there are three tangible things you can do to improve Alaska's business climate:

Get & Stay Informed!

Attend the Alaska Chamber's 53rd Conference & Trade Show, Oct. 2-3 in Anchorage

Register today at www.alaskachamber.com

Choose Legislative Priorities for 2013

Participate in the Legislative Policy Forum, Oct. 4 in Anchorage

Support Pro-Business Candidates Policies

Donate to the Alaska Business Political Action Committee online: <http://www.alaskachamber.com>

Vote for pro-business candidates on Nov. 6.

The Alaska Chamber and its members share one overarching goal: to improve the business climate in Alaska. It is serious work to advocate for the future well being of our state, but it is work we should be proud of doing. By working together, we can improve Alaska's business climate and secure Alaska's economic future.



Petro

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Vote No: Measure really a wolf in sheep's clothing



By Kurt Fredriksson

All Alaskans support responsible, well-designed coastal zone management and, up until June 2011, Alaska had such a program in place. Unfortunately, Ballot Measure 2 on the August primary ballot is a far cry from that approach to coastal zone management.

Instead, it is a bad law that was written behind closed doors without hearings or independent analysis. We can't change or fix any of the defects in this measure — we may only vote on what was written.

The proponents like to say that Ballot Measure 2 is simply about restoring the coastal management program that expired in June 2011. That is untrue. Packaging this measure as something other than what it is may be good politics, but frankly it is deceptive.

This measure will not streamline government, cut red tape and make permitting projects easier. The reality is that this measure creates a new coastal management program that is unlike anything we've ever seen in Alaska.

In a November 2011 letter, Alaska Attorney General John Burns pointed out to Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell that Ballot Measure 2 has “numerous potential constitutional concerns,” and “numerous irregularities involving draftsmanship, inconsistencies and ambiguities in the bill itself.”

This vague, poorly drafted language, if passed by voters on Aug. 28, becomes enforceable law in the state of Alaska. Its flaws and defects will be the subject of lawsuits and court challenges for years to come.

And that means uncertainty and delay for both private and public development projects like building a home or cabin, building roads or bridges, and exploring for energy or mineral resources.

Ballot Measure 2 would even require new plans and regulations for “fishing” and “scenic and aesthetic enjoyment.” Any project or activity that needs the approval of a local or state government agency in the coastal zone will be impacted.

Normally, the attorney general summarizes measures that appear on the ballot in 50 words or less. When it came to Ballot Measure 2, he couldn't do it. He asked Lt. Gov. Treadwell for permission to write a 703-word description — 14 times the space — to attempt to ex-

plain to voters the massive new bureaucracy and additional land and water use controls this initiative will create.

The fact is Ballot Measure 2 is the longest, most complex ballot question to go before Alaska voters since statehood.

In truth, this measure is a wolf in sheep's clothing. The argument that Alaska has more coastline and we are the only state without a

coastal zone program is attractive on the surface.

But, like many things, the devil is in the details. Measure 2 is a lawyer's dream come true. It comes with new obstructionist tools, including a new unelected, appointed special interest board with broad new regulatory powers and no clear rules on what the regulations should address. Bureaucrats and judges get to decide what those rules



Fredriksson

are long after the election.

Ballot Measure 2 creates a major new bureaucracy at cost of \$5.4 million, guarantees legal and political fights for years to come, and will establish one of the worst hurdles to new investment and jobs in our state. This measure alters our balanced approach to environmental protection in a dangerous way.

To learn more visit www.VoteNoon2.net and read the actual ballot language and the complex, new 15-page statute this measure would establish as Alaska law. If you do, I believe you will

be convinced that Measure 2 is bad law and should be rejected.

Alaskans deserve responsible resource management and development based on responsible environmental protection laws. Alaska can't afford this poorly written and far-reaching new measure. We deserve better.

Fredriksson is a former Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and a recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award for Coastal Zone Management.

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1 First National Bank ALASKA MEMBER FDIC

Jim Butler
Baldwin & Butler LLC
Attorneys at Law

Brendyn Shiflea
Loan Officer and Kenai Branch
Manager

We all know how business fluctuates in Alaska. It can escalate one year, stagnate the next. First National Bank Alaska can help you concentrate on what you do best so you can cultivate the upturns and mediate the downturns. From cash management tools and expertise, to fast, local decisions on loans, our friendly, experienced Alaska business specialists can help you activate a successful business strategy.

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Business community holds elected leaders accountable



PHOTO/FRANK P. FLAVIN

Alaska State Chamber members discuss business issues with Senator Fred Dyson during the 2012 Legislative Fly-In.

Holding elected officials accountable is an essential part of our democracy. Indeed, it is something we need more of, not less, in these days of political gridlock.

The Alaska Business Report Card (ABRC) is an effort to do just that. Comprised of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, the Resource Development Council, the Alaska Support Industry Alliance and ProsperityAlaska, this group gathers each year to hammer out letter grades on Alaska's state officials.

Even though this is our third year of working together as a group, we are still relatively new to the grading and ranking process. The Alaska Conservation Alliance, the local chapter of the Sierra Club, the National Rifle Association, the Alaska chapter of the NEA, and many Alaska labor organizations have been grading legislators for a long time and using those grades to educate their members.

Earlier this year the ABRC released grades on the individual members of the 27th Alaska Legislature, the Governor, the group grades for the Senate Majority and Minority, and the House Majority and Minority. Please consider the following as you head top the polls

First, the ABRC serves as collective feedback from Alaska's largest business associations who represent thousands of Alaska businesses and tens of thousands Alaskan workers. These are the businesses and the workers who are the backbone of Alaska's economy. More than 60 bills in the 27th legislature were identified by ABRC organizations and considered in the grading process.

Letter grades are computed through an average of each participating organizations' scoring based on their respective legislative priorities. Considered in the grading process are bill sponsorship, committee votes, floor votes, actions taken in committee (when applicable) and, especially, overall leadership inside and outside of the legislature.

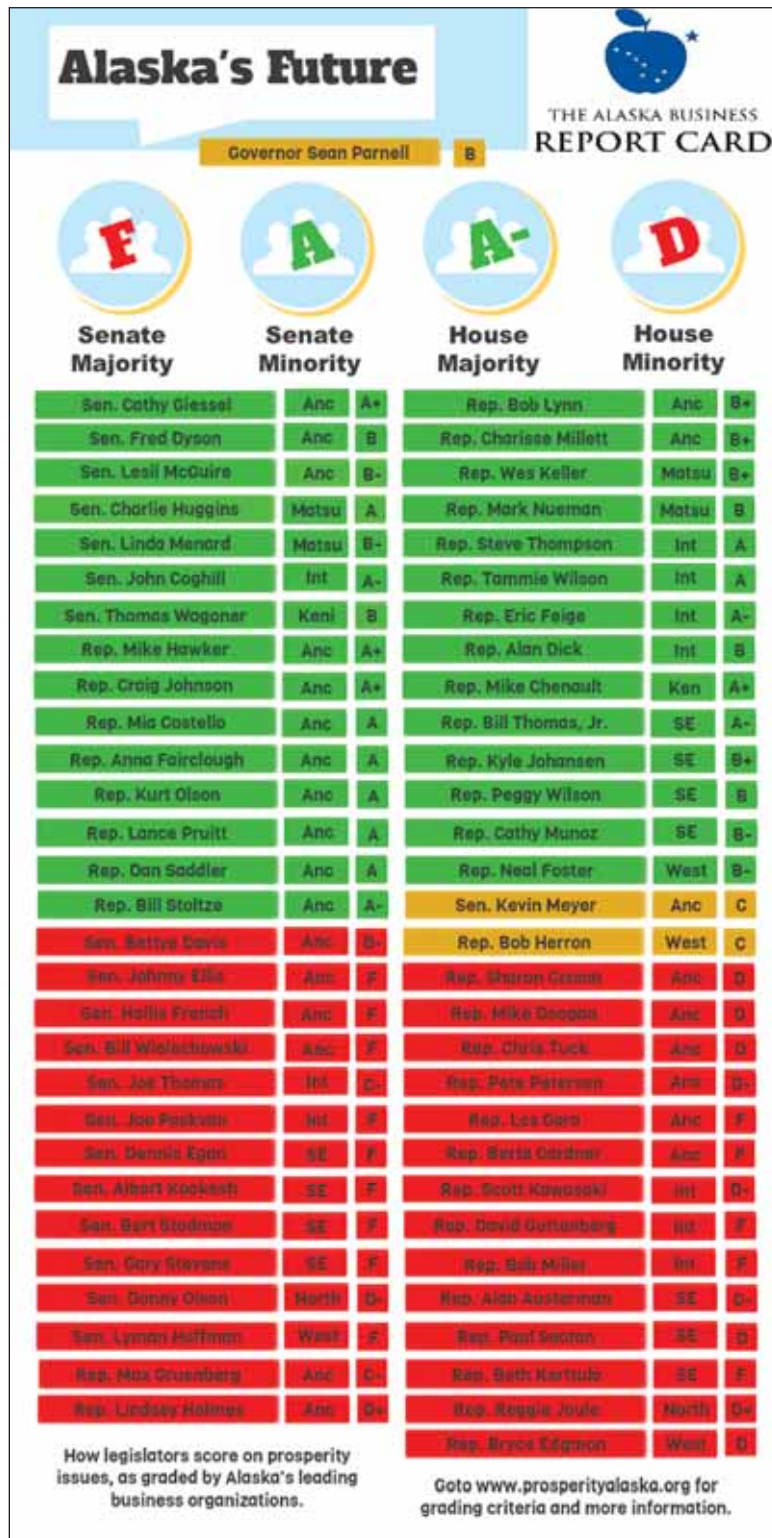
Second, each organization has its own scoring and weighting processes, using its own mix of key legislation. Interestingly, even with this diversity of scoring criteria and with numerous people involved, we come to remarkably similar conclusions before ever sitting down to compare notes. As it turns out, lawmakers who are pro-business on some issues tend to be

pro-business on others.

Third, to help elected officials know in advance how they will be graded, we share the top priorities of our combined organizations at the start of each legislative session. In fact, as a group we walk together through the halls of the capitol and hand-deliver them to each office. For the past two years our joint priorities have been: fiscal responsibility, oil tax reform, regulatory efficiency, litigation reform, general business climate and strategic transportation infrastructure funding.

In addition to informing our members, the Report Card is intended to stimulate dialogue with legislators. It has been successful in that regard. Several legislators have used the Report Card constructively and strengthened their performance markedly.

Even so, a number of elected officials will be disappointed by their grades. We share their disappointment. However, the Report Card is all about accountability. Nearly every candidate for elected office runs on a platform of economic prosperity. After the election, some successful candidates honor their pledges and some do not.



Some have a view of prosperity that is defined by private sector growth and vitality, and some view it in terms of short-term public sector growth coupled with opposition to private sector projects. The Report Card brings accountability to our elected of-

officials as viewed through the lens of private sector vitality.

We realize that not every voter or campaign contributor will consider the business community perspective to be important, but those who are concerned about Alaska's long-term vitality will.

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Legislative Policy Forum

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
 Legislative Policy Forum
 October 4, 2012
 Egan Center, Anchorage

Alaska Chamber Members, Make your membership count! The Alaska Chamber's process for adopting policies is unique among business associations. Most business association's board members develop and set the organization's priorities. In contrast, every member of the Alaska Chamber has the opportunity to advance an issue of importance. Once adopted, these issues become the focus of the Alaska Chamber's advocacy program.

Participating in the Alaska Chamber's legislative policy formation provides an opportunity to advocate for changes in a collaborative atmosphere with fellow business owners. While coming to agreement on some issues might be an interesting process, ultimately, there is tremendous power in the Alaska Chamber name once the position is set. Together we really can make a difference — and make Alaska the best place to do business!

The 2013 Legislative Policy Forum is taking place in just over a month and it is more important



PHOTO/FRANK P. FLAVIN

Members voting during the 2012 Legislative Policy Forum.

than ever to get involved and be heard. Do not miss the most important membership meeting of the year happening Oct. 4 at the Egan Center in Anchorage. Join Alaska State Chamber Members, Board Members and Local Chamber Members in determining our 2013 Legislative Priorities and Positions.

Positions must have statewide impact and be consis-

tent with the State Chamber's mission. Each position submitted must have a representative available at the Policy Forum to make a live presentation, which explains the reasoning and support for the position.

All priorities and positions that are adopted at the Policy Forum will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for ratification. Register today at www.alaskachamber.com.



Alaska Chamber Kodiak Outreach Trip 2012

Recently 40 Alaska State Chamber of Commerce members traveled to Kodiak, Alaska, as part of their yearly outreach program. While in Kodiak members attended business meetings, visited with local business leaders and toured island facilities including the Kodiak Launch Complex, Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak and the Pacific Seafood processing plant.

The yearly outreach program allows members to travel to communities through the state to discuss position issues with local business leaders and residents and is a great way to introduce the Alaska State Chamber to communities through out the state. If you haven't been, please consider attending or sponsoring an outreach trip in the future.

**Visit us on
the Web at
[www.alaska
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Emission Control Area will have immediate and adverse effect on Alaska

On July 13, 2012, the State of Alaska filed a complaint against numerous federal agencies seeking to block the implementation of a North American Emission Control Area (ECA) off the coast of Alaska. Unless the courts intervene, the EPA will begin enforcing a requirement on August 1, 2012, that vessels operating within 200 miles of our coastline use higher cost fuel.

ECAs impose additional restrictions above the stringent international standards currently being phased in and are intended for areas which require additional emission control due to air quality issues. However, the EPA has failed to provide any scientific justification to impose such costly requirements on Alaska.

Members of the Alaska Chamber took a position in the fall of 2011 advocating the EPA and Congress exclude Alaska in the ECA until such time the EPA has demonstrated scientific need to go beyond the new sulfur limits being imposed by MARPOL, Annex VI.

In the State of Alaska's legal complaint, Attorney General Michael Geraghty, stated:

Low-sulfur fuel is more expensive, and more difficult to obtain, than the fuel currently used by many marine vessels operating in the waters off the coast of Alaska. Requiring the use of low-sulfur fuel in the ECA will greatly increase operating costs for vessels that supply Alaska's residents with basic necessities, and for cruise ships that facilitate Alaska's tourism industry. Enforcement of the ECA will therefore have an immediate

and adverse effect on Alaska's citizens and economy.

In addition the fuel supply issues, it is estimated that shipping costs will increase 8 percent in the initial phase and ramp up to 15 percent to 20 percent when fully implemented. Those costs will be passed along to consumers, effectively resulting in a tax increase on Alaskans and our businesses.

Marine transportation is a critical component of our economy. It is estimated that the value of all waterborne cargo shipped from Puget Sound to Alaska is \$3.7 billion. That cargo comprises, among other things, groceries, fuel, retail goods, cars, school supplies, and construction material and equipment, including essential supplies to the U.S. military. Alaska also ships fresh seafood south via container ships.

If the ECA goes into effect, the cost to operate in business will increase significantly. Construction of residential and commercial properties will increase, road maintenance vital to commerce will go up, retail goods utilized in many businesses, and equipment used in our resource based industries will get even more expensive.

There is no question; the ECA will take millions of dollars out of economy in Alaska. The ECA will increase our cost of living, increase the cost of operating a business and with fewer dollars in circulation, reduce the demand for all kinds of purchases. The impact of the ECA is likely to be even more severe than we expect.

There is no need for the ECA in Alaska. The EPA has not done air



PHOTO/FRANK P. FLAVIN

Cruise ship in Seward on a beautiful Alaska summer day.

quality monitoring to demonstrate we have any ambient air quality issues related to marine transportation. The EPA acknowledged this in their initial documentation (EPA, 2009)

Ideally, we would like to include all of the U.S. coasts in our application for ECA designation, including Alaska, Hawaii, and the U.S. territories. To do so, however, we will have to provide information that demonstrates a need for control, as specified in the criteria for ECA designation. This is challenging because, although our

emissions modeling includes all 50 states, our air quality modeling does not extend beyond the 48 contiguous states.

The justification used by the EPA was to cite a Juneau lichen study and tie it to potential harm to caribou some 1,000 miles away. Even the EPA admitted their justification was misleading.

In response, Gov. Sean Parnell sent a letter to the EPA objecting to Alaska's inclusion. He pointed out that latest air quality studies have shown that level of air pollutants in Alaska are "appreciably below state

and national air quality standards."

Parnell also pointed out EPA's "misunderstanding of Alaska's geography and ecosystems."

Over the last year, numerous entities have been attempting to work with the EPA to find a reasonable solution to meet the EPA objectives. Extensive work was conducted developing an environmental equivalency model and other proposals. However, the EPA has not demonstrated any willingness to seriously consider options that would reduce the economic impact upon Alaska.

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Gala

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce

Annual Awards Gala

October 2, 2012

Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage

All attendees to the 2012 Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Fall Conference will also have the opportunity to join us for the Annual Awards Gala to be held at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage.

This event is the time each year where the Alaska Chamber recognizes outstanding individuals in Alaska business. The Local Chamber Award recognizes a local Chamber of Commerce Chapter for their community involvement and excellent business reputation. The Bill Bivin Small Business recognizes an Alaska business with 100 employees less that is actively involved in their community, has a great business reputation and is a leader in their industry. Finally, the William A. Egan reward is awarded to an individual who has made substantial and continued contributions to the state and has been is or has been an active member of the private sector.

Again this event will be a great chance for attendees to enjoy good food and good company while also recognizing business leaders in our state who epitomize the community and business attributes espoused by the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce.



PHOTOS/FRANK P. FLAVIN

Winners accepting their awards at previous presentations.

If you would like to sponsor this event or donate an item for the auction to support the Alaska Chamber please contact Ryan Makinster at 907.278.2727 or rmakinster@alaskachamber.com.



Candidate survey on primary candidates released

The results are in for a survey on key economic issues sent to primary candidates and can be found at www.ProspertyAlaska.org. According to Rachael Petro, Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, "It can be very hard to know where your candidates for elected office really stand on the issues."

The results show where candidates stand

on issues that directly impact jobs, wages, benefits and the future of Alaskan families. Since three of the sponsors also put together the Alaska Business Report Card, those grades were included for incumbents.

According to Petro, "As oil revenues continue to drop and the State fiscal gap becomes reality we really need to make sure

we have the people in each legislative office who will positively shape legislation that will affect each of us, the companies we work for and our communities."

Being knowledgeable about where candidates stand will help make that happen.

The sponsors of the survey, the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, Alaska For-

est Association, Consumer Energy Alliance Alaska, Resource Development Council for Alaska, ProspertyAlaska.org, Southeast Conference, and The Alaska Support Industry Alliance have shared the results with their respective memberships which represent tens of thousands of Alaskan workers and their families.

Welcome New Members

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We Mean Business!

53rd Annual Fall Conference & Trade Show

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
We Mean Business!
53rd Annual
Fall Conference & Trade Show
October 2 & 3, 2012

Every year the Alaska State Chamber gathers to discuss topics of importance to the Alaska business community. These sessions include policy issues, the state of the economy and our anchor industries as well as better business practices and individual advocacy.

The conference offers attendees the chance to learn more about the Alaska Chamber, issues affecting business in Alaska and to interact with other business owners and members of the greater public.

The tradeshow also offers attendees the opportunity to learn more about the offerings of statewide businesses and for tradeshow participants the opportunity to expand their business and demonstrate their product offerings.

Please consider attending this great event.

Scheduled Topics

October 2

1. Alaska's Gas, What's Next?
2. OCS – Obstacles, Challenges and Successes
3. ECA - EPA Imposes New Rules That Will Increase Alaska's Cost of living
4. Alaska's Aquatic Resource- The fishing industry, past present and future.
5. Anchorage Chamber Welcome Reception
6. AK Chamber Gala & Auction

October 3

1. Healthcare...Where are we today? Where are we headed? How will it affect your business?
2. Alaska's New Gold Rush – Mining today and tomorrow
3. Alaska Congressional Delegation Discussion
4. Government Affairs: Powerful or Powerless? We Mean Business!
5. Top 49er Luncheon – Honoring Alaska's Top 49 Businesses for 2012

*Topics subject to change

Register today for the conference and tradeshow booth at www.alaskachamber.com.

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce

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