



EXECUTIVE PARTNERS

DIAMOND

Alaska Airlines
Foundation Health Partners
Lockheed Martin
Mt. McKinley Bank
Ravn Alaska
Vivlamore Companies

PLATINUM

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
ConocoPhillips
Denali State Bank
Doyon, Limited
Fred Meyer Stores
GCI
Golden Heart Utilities
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
MAC Federal Credit Union

GOLD

BP Exploration
Carlson Center
Design Alaska
Doyon Utilities LLC
ExxonMobil
First National Bank Alaska
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC
TOTE Maritime Alaska
Usibelli Coal Mine
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska
Westmark Fairbanks Hotel &
Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge

SILVER

Alaska USA
Alaska Railroad
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK
Exclusive Paving/University Redi-Mix
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
Gene's Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge
Golden Valley Electric Association
Hale & Associates, Inc.
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
JL Properties, Inc.
Key Bank
Lynden
Matson Alaska
McDonald's of Fairbanks
Northrim Bank
Personnel Plus
Seekins Ford Lincoln
Sourdough Fuel
Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union
TDL Staffing
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Verizon Wireless
Yukon Title Company

February 21, 2018

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports the proposed changes identified in SB 86 and HB 207 to allow the Alaska Railroad Corporation to sell or dispose of the Corporation's land. Currently, all such actions by the Corporation must obtain legislative approval to dispose of any land. We respectfully request your committee approves the changes identified in the bill language thus allowing the Alaska Railroad to increase efficiencies in the operation of their business.

Historically, great railroads of our nation were granted land in excess of the requirements for track bed and supporting infrastructure. This was to help fund the cost of the system and to develop markets which would utilize the railroad. The Alaska Railroad was organized as a public corporation to be able to act more like a business than a traditional state agency, yet no other state agency requires legislative approval for land disposal.

The requirement to obtain legislative approval adds substantial delays and unknowns to a project startup, which are major disincentives to even beginning a project. The proposed amendments in SB 86 and HB 207 provide sufficient transparency as well as checks and balances to ensure the public interest is served. The Fairbanks Chamber also supports the sunset provision which will provide additional legislative review to ensure certain protections or guidance for management of the land grant.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 business members throughout Interior Alaska. We work to advocate for the best business environment, promote economic strength and growth for Interior Alaska, and to develop the resources and networks enterprising people use to share knowledge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marisa Sharrah".

Marisa Sharrah
President & CEO
Fairbanks Chamber

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany Van Horn".

Tiffany Van Horn
Chair
Fairbanks Chamber