

Delta Industrial Manufacturing, LLC
Delta Industrial Services Fairbanks, LLC
Delta Mining Services, LLC
Delta Petro-Wash, LLC
Delta Rental Services, LLC
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March 21. 2014

Senators Pete Kelley and Kevin Meyer, C0-Chairs Senate Finance Committee Room 520 Capitol Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senators Kelley and Meyer:

I am writing in support of continued funding for the Delta Career Advancement Center through the Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP as provided in SB139 and HB278. This program has made a significant difference in our region to provide career and technical education to help build Alaska's workforce.

Specifically, in Delta, the programs delivered at the Center through Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) educational consortium named a State of Alaska Regional Training Center in 2008 by the Legislature, are life changing.

Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. launched in 2006 the Introduction to Heavy Equipment Operator and Mechanic Academy offered at the Center. This annual June Academy is quality focused and has in each year resulted in some of the candidates being accepted into the Trades. This is a high quality program whereby young adults leave the Academy with certifications in forklift operator, OSHA 10 and MSHA 20 certificates, as well as First Aid and AED. The participants learn about work ethic and come away with an appreciation for what employers are seeking in employees. I know firsthand since I am a business owner seeking qualified workers.

The educational partners are: Delta/Greely School District, Alaska Works Partnership, University of Alaska Fairbanks Community & Technical College and Cooperative Extension Service. Each entity brings its own breadth of programming to the partnership to meet the needs of the region. The students who come to the Center for a wide range of programs are seeking everything from certificates and degrees to refresher classes to improve skills to learning new skills to be competitive for area jobs.

I urge continued support of TVEP funding for the Delta Career Advancement Center/Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Curtis Dufendach, President