From: Odin Brudie

To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Sustain Ferry Service Funding
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 12:52:20 PM

Please support adequate funding for scheduled Alaska Marine Highway Service. Reductions in service during Alaska's peak travel season will hurt those communities that rely on the AMHS.

We rely on the AMHS to travel between Southeast communities for visiting friends and family, and family, friends and residents in those communities rely on the AMHS to come to Juneau to shop and to visit. The ski team that I coach travelled on the AMHS to the Buckwheat ski race in Skagway this weekend, an event that helps Skagway open their hotels and restaurants and prepare for the upcoming visitor season. Many of us use the AMHS to get wood and forest products from the sawmill in Hoohah.

The AMHS is essential for us here in Southeast for moving people and goods to and around the region. While I recognize there are budget cuts in many departments, I urge the legislature to proceed with caution when trimming the AMHS budget in order to reduce the negative impact on our local and state economy.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your service.

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