



ICICLE

March 26, 2015

Representative Louise Stutes, Chair
House Special Committee on Fisheries
Alaska State Legislature
120 4th Street, State Capitol, Room 3
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Support for HCR 10

Dear Chair Stutes,

Thank you for sponsoring HCR 10, a resolution supporting the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Industry Advisory Committee and further efforts to carry out the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan (Plan).

Icicle Seafoods, Inc. is a major Alaskan seafood processing company. We have land plants and floating operations in and around Petersburg, Seward, Homer, Larsen Bay, Egegik, Wood River, and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor. We have participated throughout the process to develop the Plan and remain engaged in efforts to implement it.

We strongly support this resolution. As a member of the Alaska Maritime Industry we are well aware of the need for workers that possess the technical and professional skills necessary to keep our business operating and competitive. We are also very aware of our dependence on other businesses in the Maritime Industry, such as the transportation sector, to get supplies to our plants and our products to market. As the largest private sector employer in the state, the services and activities of the Alaska Maritime Industry reach far and wide.

We believe the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan sets a good course to increase career awareness, workforce recruitment and retention, training in job readiness, and education in technical and professional skills for Alaskans. However, the best way to accomplish this is through a collaborative effort with Alaska maritime employers, state agencies focused on education and workforce development, training/education providers, tribal and local governments, and other stakeholders. Preparing, training, and employing more Alaskans to work in the Maritime Industry will increase Alaska's competitiveness and strengthen our economy.

Thank you for supporting these workforce development endeavors and sponsoring this important resolution.

Sincerely,

Kris Norosz
Government Affairs

PETERSBURG FISHERIES

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