



March 7, 2017

Senator Mike Dunleavy
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 11
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Dunleavy,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports cooperative and sustainable partnerships between the military and business community. Many of our member businesses deliver goods and services to our military installations to support the defense of our nation. However, these partnerships may be in jeopardy if the state does not pass legislation this session to address the REAL ID Act.

The Fairbanks Chamber supports passage of HB74 or SB34 in response to the REAL ID Act of 2005, which was passed by Congress and relates to issues of National Security and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and which modifies U.S. federal law pertaining to security, authentication, and issuance procedures standards for the state driver's licenses and identity documents, as well as various immigration issues pertaining to terrorism.

The passage of HB74 or SB34 is necessary to ensure continued base access to the thousands of Alaskan employees who work there each day. If legislation does not pass, there will be an adverse economic impact in Fairbanks and throughout the State. The military accounts for one third of the economy of Fairbanks North Star Borough, much of which comes from military contracts with local businesses and individuals for short and long-term business endeavors. The greater Fairbanks area will soon benefit from increased federal construction on Fort Wainwright, Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Greely and Clear Air Force Station. In the face of upcoming Federal deadlines, Alaska's continued non-compliance with the REAL ID Act will create a barrier to Alaskan businesses that would otherwise be involved in the construction activity. Most employees rely on their driver's license to provide them access to the military installations where they work, and Alaskan driver's licenses are non-compliant with the Act. Therefore, Alaskan workers who do not have a passport will not be allowed access. Ironically, and contrary to other State efforts encouraging local hire, out of state workers will be given the advantage for work hours on military installations because most states are issuing REAL ID compliant IDs.

It is critical that legislation pass this year due to the approaching deadlines established by the Department of Homeland Security. The consequences of noncompliance with the REAL ID Act will begin affecting Alaskan businesses as soon as June 6, 2017 for access to military facilities, and January 22, 2018 for travel through TSA security points. Alaska MUST take this necessary step towards compliance now. The Department of Motor Vehicles needs as much as a year to have the necessary equipment and processes in place to provide compliant IDs. Without action that at least indicates a

good faith effort towards compliance, Alaska has likely run out of deadline extensions, making this legislation inevitable. Passing it now rather than later reduces the impacts to working Alaskans and the businesses that employ them in the near term, and resolves the impending TSA travel issue.

We understand the privacy concerns related to the REAL ID Act and support the solution put forward in this legislation that makes obtaining a compliant REAL ID voluntary on the part of Alaskans. Either HB74 or SB34 would allow the Department of Administration to issue both REAL ID compliant and noncompliant identification cards and driver's licenses, at the resident's preference.

With so much of the Interior's economy dependent on the military, we greatly appreciate any support you can offer to ensure the passage of the REAL ID legislation this session. Please do not put the employment of thousands of Alaskans at risk.

Sincerely,



Marisa Sharrah
President & CEO
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce



Garry Hutchison
Board Chair
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce



March 14, 2017

Senator Mike Dunleavy, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chair Dunleavy:

On behalf of the Associated Builders and Contractors – Alaska Chapter, a construction industry trade association with 142 members, I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 34 – Driver’s Licenses, ID Cards and the Real ID Act.

Construction projects on military bases represent a significant amount of work for our members. To continue to access work sites on military bases and in federal facilities Alaskans will be required to have IDs and driver’s licenses issued by the Department of Administration that are Real ID compliant. If the Department continues to be prevented from issuing them, by June 6, 2017 our ability to access work sites will be severely impacted. The state should issue these ids to people who need them and not put Alaskans’ ability to work or travel at stake while maintaining the option for those who don’t want a Real ID to select the current state id or license as is provided in the bill.

Asking the Alaska construction workforce to get passports isn’t a realistic option. It would be tragic if they only people able to work on construction projects at Military bases in Alaska were workers from lower 48 states that have Real ID compliant licenses.

We urge your support of Senate Bill 34 to ensure our members have the ability to choose a Real ID compliant id and continue to access work sites.

Sincerely,

Amy Nibert
President/CEO
Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. | Alaska Chapter

From: [Steve Montag](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Alaska State ID
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 3:10:38 PM

Dear Senator Dunleavy,

I am writing to request that you support and work toward bringing our State ID's and Driver Licenses into line with Federal Regulations so that we will not have to present U.S. Passports at Airports and Military Installations to gain access.

I am a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska for 11 years and would truly appreciate your efforts concerning this concern of mine. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Steve Montag

From: [Roses, Bob J \(AMYA\)](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Real ID
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 10:29:55 AM

Senator Dunleavy,

SB 34 has a very direct impact on the operation of the Alaska Military Youth Academy. In our conversations with security supervisors at JBER it is determined that all cadets that are, or will, turn 18 years of age during this next class will be impacted. Close to 50% of our class that starts next week meet that criteria.

AMYA has the largest mentorship program in Alaska. Every mentor that does not possess an acceptable form of ID will not be granted access to JBER for training and weekly visitations with cadets. Mentoring is one of the strengths of our program and how we differ from public schools. It would be very difficult and expensive to have to transport 200+ cadets off post for mentor visitations. We have not budgeted for such a necessity, so the result would be far less mentor visitations, thus resulting in a negative impact on cadet success.

Our cadets must travel off JBER for community service which is required as part of their eight core components for completion of the program. They also travel off JBER for activities including medical appointments during their 22 week program. Re-entry to JBER will be restricted to those with a pass issued by JBER security or their designee. Issuance of those passes will require a form of ID accepted by the U.S. government under the real ID Act.

Any assistance you can offer to solve AMYA's difficulties in this regard in SB 34 would be very helpful.

I will be available to provide information or answer questions on this regard. I plan to teleconference in to Senate State Affairs tomorrow afternoon.

Thank you,

Bob Roses
Director
Alaska Military Youth Academy
(907) 428-7301 work
(907) 350-0684 cell

From: [Aaron Welterlen](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: SB 34: Real ID
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:51:37 AM

Senator,

I'm writing to support the passage of SB 34 and the relevant HB 74 in order to comply with the Real ID act.

We perform work on military installations in the Fairbanks area, and many of our employees do not want or have the need for a passport. We would prefer to keep it simple.

Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Kind Regards,

Aaron Welterlen
President



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