

**Papaya Tree**

January 30, 2026

**Letter of Support for HB 25**

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature:

As a business owner, I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 25, sponsored by Representative Josephson, that requires food establishments to transition from polystyrene ("Styrofoam") containers to safer compostable serviceware. Our restaurant no longer uses polystyrene because it makes good business sense.

Our customers prefer safer compostable alternatives and reuse options to polystyrene packaging, recognizing that polystyrene contains harmful chemicals that leach into the foods or beverages, that are non-recyclable, and is hazardous to fish, wildlife, and people. We have found it economical for our business because of the availability of bulk purchasing discounts and higher customer satisfaction and loyalty.

Thank you for your careful consideration of HB 25. I ask that you support passage during this session.

Sincerely,

*Jo Manning* PAPAYA TREE LLC