

Whittier Tourism Best Management Practices, Letter of Support for House Bill 25



2/11/2026

Letter of Support for HB 25

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature:

Alaska is known for its beautiful pristine landscapes and waters; in the tourism industry we know this all too well. I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 25, sponsored by Representative Josephson, that would prohibit food establishments from providing prepared foods in polystyrene (“Styrofoam”) containers, and transition to safer more eco-friendly service-ware. In the tourism industry this transition would have multiple benefits, including but not limited to cleaner and nicer looking shorelines and hiking trails, less debris for tourism vessels while out at sea, and a reduction in ocean pollution causing problems with engines in motor vessels in Alaska. A picture is worth a thousand words, and we want all those words to remain positive and clean.

We also would like to acknowledge that this bill would reduce the known plastics problem state wide, and benefit far more than just tourism as it is also a measure to protect the health of our guests and local Alaskans from exposure to toxic chemicals that can leach from polystyrene containers in to food and beverages, as well as break down into microplastics entering our bodies through air, water, and the food we eat.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Carlson

Greater Whittier Chamber of Commerce- Officer

Whittier Tourism Best Management Practices-Administrator