

Mike Chenault

Speaker of The House

Alaska Legislature

Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I'm writing as a citizen that lives in Homer and I'd like to support HB 285, which exempts the Homer Port and Harbor and lands immediately adjacent necessary for normal Port operations from the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area.

The change is in accordance with the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area Plan that states in the introduction that it does not apply to municipal lands.

This exemption is necessary for the Port to carry on with the kinds of operations that it currently conducts, and for the future expansion of Harbor and Port facilities. Without the exemption the City of Homer and the Marine Trades business will suffer economic hardships. The exemption is the first step to getting a deep water dock that can have freight hauled over it, which will not just benefit Homer and local businesses, but the entire Kenai Peninsula Borough and businesses.

Thank You,

Bryan Zak

Homer resident