

From: owners@shoeflyalaska.com
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Alaska Marine Highway Service Essential to Business
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 12:07:36 PM

Honorable Finance Committee,

I own Shoefly, Inc. in downtown Juneau and I am writing today to urge you to restore and maintain funding to the Alaska Marine Highway. The business that the marine highways bring to Juneau is essential to my success at Shoefly, especially for the long term. As the internet erodes my sales to people who live in Juneau, the marine highways and airways bring visitors to Juneau who are willing to purchase shoes while traveling. If Juneau is to continue as an economic hub for Southeast Alaska and just as importantly to Whitehorse, Canada, we need our marine highways.

I would like to point out that most roads do not make a profit, nor do they pay for themselves. We would likely have to install toll booths every 20 miles if we wanted the roads in our great state to yield a profit or to break even. The marine highway is no different than these other roads.

Please take action to keep our highways open, marine or land-based, and contribute to a healthy economy for those of us who choose to live in Alaska.

Respectfully,

Sydney Mitchell
CEO & President
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