

# JUNEAU CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations



Alaska Public Employees Association/AFT  
Alaska State Employees Association/AFSCME Local 52  
General Teamsters Local 959, State of Alaska  
Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific, Alaska Region  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1547  
International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 200  
International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302  
Juneau Career Fire Fighters Association Local 4304, IAFF

Laborers International Union of North America Local 942  
Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, District 1  
Masters, Mates & Pilots, Pacific Maritime Region  
Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters Local 1281  
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 262  
Public Employees Local 71  
Public Safety Employees Association/AFSCME Local 803  
University of Alaska Federation of Teachers/AFT Local 2404

**"Doing Alaska's Work, Living Alaska's Lives, Making Alaska a Great Place to Live"**

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12 March 2014

The Honorable State Senator Pete Kelly and  
The Honorable State Senator Kevin Meyer, Co-Chairs,  
STATE OF ALASKA, State Senate Finance Committee  
Room 520, Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Opposition to SB 182

Dear Honorable Co-Chairs Kelly & Meyer, and Honorable Members of the State Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of the Juneau Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, and its approximately 5,000 affiliated local union members, I write to urge your opposition to SB 182, a bill that would materially harm and generally insult those employees of the Alaska Marine Highway System who are Alaska residents.

The Cost-of-Living Differential (COLD) provisions of the labor agreements between the state of Alaska and the three (3) maritime unions, Inland Boatmen's Union (IBU), Marine Engineers Beneficial Association (MEBA) and Masters Mates & Pilots (MMP) is an element of wage compensation that recognizes the increased cost-of-living incurred by living in Alaska and that rewards employees for establishing and maintaining Alaska residency during their state employment. COLD is essentially an "Alaskan hire" program, and should be encouraged, strengthened and even expanded, rather than restricted or diminished.

In addition, the COLD provisions of the maritime unions' contracts have historically and traditionally been articulated through the negotiation processes between state of Alaska and the three involved unions, and we strongly urge that the State Legislature continue its long-standing and appropriate practice of reviewing and implementing by legislation the monetary products of negotiations, but not otherwise involving itself in the negotiating process.

I thank you for consideration of this request.

Cordially,



Pete Ford, President  
Juneau CLC, AFL-CIO

cc: All Members of the Senate Finance Committee  
All Affiliated Unions of the Juneau CLC