



Interior Alaska – The “Place” To Do Business

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February 20, 2013

Good Evening, members of the Senate Resources committee; thank you for the opportunity to testify this evening. For the record, my name is Lisa Herbert and I serve as the Executive Director for the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber represents over 700 businesses and organizations throughout the Interior of Alaska. Our primary purpose is business advocacy but our mission is to promote and ensure a healthy economic environment for the greater Fairbanks area so that it can remain an attractive place for both business and community.

One of the Chamber's top critical priorities this legislative session is to encourage increased oil production by encouraging the legislature and the administration to establish competitive investment opportunities through taxation and regulatory policies that will facilitate additional oil exploration, development and increased production, therefore reversing the dramatic decline of throughput in the pipeline. The need exists now to take the steps necessary to ensure the health and viability of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

The Chamber supports the Governor's four key guiding principles for tax reform:

- 1) That it must be fair to Alaskans;
- 2) That it must encourage new production from ALL sources;
- 3) That it must be simple; and
- 4) That it must be durable for the long term and keep Alaska competitive

For the last three years, thousands of business owners, employees and residents have testified before the legislature or submitted comment cards supporting reform of Alaska's oil tax policy to make our great state more competitive. We support continuation of vetting the Governor's bill and exercise due diligence to reform oil taxes in a fair, meaningful way. We will remain engaged with you all as the bill moves through the legislative process. We encourage you to continue the dialogue surrounding the guiding principles for tax reform.

On behalf of the Chamber's Board of Directors and membership, thank you for your leadership on this critical issue facing our state. I appreciate the opportunity to comment here tonight on behalf of the businesses and organizations that make up the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

Lisa Herbert

Executive Director

INVESTORS

DIAMOND

BP Exploration
ConocoPhillips
ExxonMobil
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital &
Denali Center
Flint Hills Resources Alaska
Mt. McKinley Bank
Santina's Flowers & Gifts

PLATINUM

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
Doyon, Limited
Fred Meyer Stores
Golden Heart Utilities
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska

GOLD

Alaska Railroad
Birchwood Homes
Carlson Center
Denali State Bank
Design Alaska
Doyon Utilities LLC
First National Bank Alaska
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
Lynden
MAC Federal Credit Union
Northrim Bank
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC
Usibelli Coal Mine

SILVER

ACS
Alaska Airlines
Alaska USA
Dr. Christopher Henry – Henry
Orthodontics
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK
Exclusive Paving/Univ. Redi-Mix
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
GCI
General Teamsters Local 959
GVEA
Hale & Associates, Inc.
JL Properties, Inc.
Key Bank
Personnel Plus
Sam's Club
Shell Exploration & Production Co.
Spirit of Alaska FCU
Tanana Valley Clinic
TDL Staffing
Totem Ocean Trailer Express, Inc.
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold
Project
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Verizon Wireless
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.
Yukon Title Company