



## Interior Alaska – The “Place” To Do Business

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April 10, 2014

Honorable Alan Austerman & Bill Stoltze  
Co-Chairs, House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

### RE: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 64: Omnibus Crime/Corrections/Recidivism

Dear Representatives Austerman & Stoltze and members of the House Finance Committee,

The Greater Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 businesses and organizations in the greater Fairbanks area and our mission is to ensure a healthy economic environment. As a member-driven organization the Chamber advocates for a healthy economic environment and promotes the greater Fairbanks area as an attractive place for business and community.

The Chamber supports SB 64, the Omnibus Crime/Corrections/Recidivism bill, recognizing that fiscally responsible efforts by the legislature promote a healthy community and a healthy workforce. While we understand that SB64 requires an upfront financial investment, we believe the investment to be worthwhile as the State of Alaska will realize substantial cost-savings in the future.

Provisions in SB 64 are aimed at reducing Alaska's high recidivism rates by providing for a Recidivism Reduction Fund (\$500k) and by re-establishing a Criminal Justice Commission. The bill also increases public safety measures and decreases costs to the state by providing alternatives to mega prisons, increasing the threshold for felony theft, and providing an innovative, yet proven drug and alcohol testing program for paroled persons.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber is pleased to support social policies that are fiscally sound, thoroughly vetted, and responsive to a changing budget environment. SB 64 manages to meet these criteria without reducing services or public safety initiatives; as such the Chamber offers support of this bill.

Sincerely,

THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Steve Lundgren  
Board of Directors, Chair

Lisa Herbert  
Executive Director

Cc: Senate Judiciary Chair Senator Coghill

#### INVESTORS

##### DIAMOND

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

##### PLATINUM

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

##### GOLD

Birchwood Homes  
Carlson Center  
Denali State Bank  
Design Alaska  
Doyon Utilities LLC  
First National Bank Alaska  
GCI  
Kinross Fort Knox Mine  
Lynden  
Northrim Bank  
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC  
Usibelli Coal Mine  
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.

##### SILVER

Alaska Airlines  
Alaska Communications  
Alaska Railroad  
Alaska USA  
Dr. Christopher Henry – Henry Orthodontics  
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK  
Exclusive Paving/Univ. Redi-Mix  
Fairbanks Natural Gas  
Flowline Alaska  
General Teamsters Local 959  
Golden Valley Electric Association  
Hale & Associates, Inc.  
JL Properties, Inc.  
Key Bank  
MAC Federal Credit Union  
Personnel Plus  
Sam's Club  
Shell Exploration & Production Co.  
Spirit of Alaska FCU  
Tanana Valley Clinic  
TDL Staffing  
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Verizon Wireless  
Viviamore Companies  
Yukon Title Company