



**Alaskans for Litter  
Prevention & Recycling**  
*Keeping Alaska beautiful*

March 29, 2013

Senator Kevin Meyer, Co-Chair, Senate Finance  
Senator Pete Kelly, Co-Chair, Senate Finance  
Alaska State Legislature

Dear Sen. Meyer and Sen. Kelly,

RE: Testimony for SB 18 Capital Budget: Support for Japan Tsunami Debris /  
Marine Debris Cleanup Funding at \$5,000,000

On behalf of the ALPAR Board of Directors, I would like to voice our support for capital budget funding of \$5 million for cleanup of Alaska's coastlines impacted by debris from the Japan Tsunami as well as other unidentified marine debris. Studies by NOAA, State of Alaska DEC and others confirm that Alaska is significantly more impacted by this debris coming ashore than other west coast states and Hawaii. The cost of cleaning our remote and high-energy beaches is exponentially higher as well.

ALPAR has provided funding for and assisted with litter clean up for Alaska's communities since 1982. We believe that Alaska has never before faced a litter and debris pollution issue of this magnitude and that we, as a state, must move forward as quickly as possible to mitigate the negative impacts to fish and wildlife as well as our view sheds particularly in light of the increasing difficulty and higher costs of removing the debris as it is broken up and disbursed over larger areas.

Alaska's communities, non-profits and the federal government will play a role in this effort as well, but leadership and resources should also come from the State of Alaska. Just as any homeowner in Alaska is responsible for removing litter and pollution from their property no matter where it came from, so is the State of Alaska obligated. We feel it is imperative that the State meet this obligation to our land and our people.

We appreciate your commitment to the stewardship of our coastline and beaches and protecting our fish and wildlife from the negative impacts of this disaster that will continue to impact significant areas in Alaska for a number of years.

Sincerely,

Mary Fisher  
Executive Director

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mary Fisher

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**George Lowery, President**  
Alaska Director  
Totem Ocean Trailer Express

**Brent Miller, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Unit Sales Manager  
Pepsi Beverage Company

**Marion Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
VP & General Manager, Alaska  
Horizon Lines, Inc.

\* **Keith Sopp, Secretary**  
Media Sales Manager  
GCI

**Jeff Lowenfels, Treasurer**  
Author, Renowned Columnist

**Michael Blewett, Past President**  
Home Regional Supervisor, Alaska  
Fred Meyer

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Michael Beck**  
Sr. Vice President  
The News Group

\* **Roger Briley**

**Ken Carter**  
Production Director  
Anchorage Daily News

**Jimmy Doyle**  
Vice President  
Weaver Brothers, Inc.

**Tim Erickson**  
General Manager  
Cold Spot Feeds Co.

**Craig Gales**  
Senior Manager, Marketing  
Alaska Waste

\* **Don Grasse**  
Vice President & General Manager  
K & L Distributors, Inc.

**Tom Johnston**  
State of Alaska DOT & PF

**Joy Journey**  
Executive Director  
Alaska Air Carriers Association

**Kim Koval**  
Executive Director  
Green Star

**Joel Kadarauch**  
Vice President of Sales  
Odom Corp.

**Marlene Munsell**  
Store Manager  
Walmart Stores, Inc.

**Glenn Peterson**  
District Manager  
CARRS/Safeway

**Brian Potvin**  
Central Alaska Manager  
Alaska Marine Lines

\* **Scott Smith**  
General Manager  
Anchorage Media Group

**HONORARY  
LIFETIME MEMBERS**

\* Tom Cox

\* Mark Williams

Audrey Lee

\* Cherie Myers

\* Past President