

**From:** [Roman Motyka](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#); [Sen. Dennis Egan](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#); [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#)  
**Subject:** Cuts to Ferry budget  
**Date:** Sunday, March 29, 2015 5:36:47 PM

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March 29, 2015

Dear Senators and Representatives,

It deeply saddens me to see funds for our iconic ferry system slashed. I realize times are tough for all, given the shortfall. However, bear in mind, the ferry system is the critical lifeline for small villages as well as cities throughout southeast Alaska. I personally depend on it for commuting to and from Pelican during the summer months and to Fairbanks in fall and spring. Even now, service to Pelican is only offered once every two weeks. Any reduction in service would have devastating effects on this already economically depressed town. The ferry system is also our highway to Haines and Skagway as well as points south. We depend heavily on it for travelling to and from Anchorage and Fairbanks and to other SE AK towns such Petersburg and Sitka. A reduction in service would place a severe burden on traveling between SE AK communities and would also cripple the southeast Alaska tourist industry dependent on independent travelers.

I am therefore pleading with you to please restore funding for scheduled Alaska Marine Highway Service.

Sincerely,

Roman Motyka

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