



April 3, 2019

The Honorable Gabrielle LeDoux
Alaska State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative LeDoux and Members of the Military & Veterans' Affairs Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports improving the reporting process for expedited temporary courtesy licenses provided to military spouses. Improving this process supports our legislative priority to assist veterans, retirees, transitioning service members, military spouses, National Guard members and Reserve Component members in finding employment opportunities.

We support the efforts of the Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Alaska Coalition for Veteran's and Military Families, to make improvements in the process for military personnel and military spouses to apply for professional licenses in an expedited manner. Alaska has been a leader in this area, with legislation dating back to 2011.

However, to date, this legislation has resulted in very low participation from military spouses. In 2017, fewer than 30 expedited temporary licensing applications were received from military spouses. Clearly there is still work to be done, and a formal reporting process is a component of improving this situation.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 business members throughout Interior Alaska. We work to advocate for the best business environment, promote economic strength and growth for Interior Alaska, and to develop the resources and networks enterprising people use to share knowledge. Please let us know if we can provide any information to support your efforts on this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marisa Sharrah".

Marisa Sharrah
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Dean".

Rebecca Dean
Board Chair

DIAMOND

Alaska Airlines
Denali State Bank
Foundation Health Partners
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, TVC
Orthopedics & Sportsmedicine
Lockheed Martin
Mt. McKinley Bank
Vivamore Companies

PLATINUM

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
ConocoPhillips
Doyon, Limited
Fred Meyer Stores
GCI
Golden Heart Utilities
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
MAC Federal Credit Union

GOLD

Alaska Executive Search
BP Exploration
Carlson Center
Design Alaska
Doyon Utilities LLC
ExxonMobil
First National Bank Alaska
Matson Alaska
Northern Star Pogo LLC
Ravn Alaska
TOTE Maritime Alaska
Usibelli Coal Mine
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska
Westmark Fairbanks Hotel &
Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge

SILVER

Ahtna Incorporated
Alaska USA
Alaska Railroad
AT&T
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK
Exclusive Paving/University Redi-Mix
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
Gene's Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge
Go Alaska Media, LLC
Golden Valley Electric Association
Hale & Associates, Inc.
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
HUB International
JL Properties, Inc.
Key Bank
LifeMed Alaska
Lynden
McDonald's of Fairbanks
Northrim Bank
Personnel Plus
Seekins Ford Lincoln
Sourdough Fuel
Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union
TDL Staffing
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Verizon Wireless
Yukon Title Company