

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

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Committees:
State Affairs, Co-Chair
Arctic Policy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Fisheries
Community and Regional Affairs



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Sitka, Alaska 99835 (May – Dec.)
201 Katlian Street, Ste. 103
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Sponsor Statement | HB 253 – SALE, TRANSFER, OR DISPOSAL OF FERRIES

House Bill 253 would prevent the Alaska Department of Transportation from selling or disposing of a ferry without first obtaining the approval of lawmakers. This legislation is co-sponsored by coastal legislators from across the state and is a mayday to help save the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS).

The proposal helps protect past investments into AMHS by ensuring that significant public process occurs before any ferries are permanently taken out of commission. Alaskans are concerned that this administration — or future administrations — may dismantle the ferry system to the point that it can no longer serve as a viable means of transportation for people and cargo within the roadless areas of coastal Alaska.

HB 253 ensures that the voices of those affected by potential future AMHS divestments are heard.