



March 22, 2021

Submitted via email

Subject: Support Cruise Travel to Alaska

Dear Chair Hopkins, Vice Chair Hannan, and members of the House Transportation Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce encourages the Alaska legislature to publicly support our tourism industry and its value to this state. Transport Canada's continuation of prohibiting cruise vessels in Canadian waters until February 28, 2022 further threatens Alaska's already fragile summer tourism season, predominately made up of small businesses.

As currently written, House Joint Resolution 13 urges the United States Congress to pass legislation offering changes to complicated federal regulations, such as an exemption or temporary waiver of fees from the Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886 which would allow cruise ships to sail between U.S. ports without stopping in Canada.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 650 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.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jinnel Choiniere".

Jinnel Choiniere
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angie M. Tallant".

Angie Tallant
Board Chair

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