

3/24/2021

Representative Chris Tuck
Chair
House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee
State Capitol Room 216
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Testimony supporting HJA15

Dear Chair Tuck and members of the House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee,

Matson supports House Joint Resolution No. 15, which requests the United States Department of Defense (USDOD) augment public and private funding for the Port of Alaska. The Port of Alaska is critical to the state. It provides the only fully operational port for handling containers and roll-on-roll-off cargo. It is also the distribution hub for aviation fuel supporting operations at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

A significant sum of money is required to bring the Port of Alaska up the level needed to support proper, long-term use. No singular source is expected to shoulder the substantial costs related to the port modernization, and the parties involved (state, municipal and private industry) should pursue all avenues while seeking funding opportunities.

To this end, Matson supports any and all efforts to obtain additional funding for these crucial improvements, including requesting investment from the USDOD.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support of House Joint Resolution No. 15.



Bal Dreyfus
Senior Vice President, Alaska
Matson

CC:

Steve Ribuffo, Director, Port of Alaska