

**STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE**

**2022**

**Source**  
HCR 2

**Legislative  
Resolve No.**  
15



Supporting the Alaska Ocean Cluster in its mission, efforts, and vision for a vibrant coastal economy in the state, its promotion of a diversified and resilient state economy that creates value from ocean resources, and its building of a statewide integrated ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship relating to the state's ocean economy.

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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**WHEREAS** a third of the exclusive economic zone of the United States is along the state's coastline, and the only Arctic region in the nation lies in the state; and

**WHEREAS** the state's ocean economy is substantial and holds tremendous potential, with over half of the nation's seafood harvest, coastline, and renewable ocean energy potential; and

**WHEREAS** it is conservatively predicted that the global ocean economy will double to an estimated \$3 trillion by 2030; and

**WHEREAS** clusters are the engines behind more than 50 ocean industry growth initiatives underway around the world; and

**WHEREAS** clusters have been hugely successful elsewhere in the world, with a leading example in Iceland; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska Ocean Cluster promotes and expands the state's ocean economy by leveraging existing strengths while supporting innovation and emerging opportunities to diversify the state's economy, benefiting the residents of the state; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska Ocean Cluster has a broad focus on the ocean economy, including ocean energy production, fisheries, and transportation, and has identified mariculture, increased fish utilization, incubation of innovative ocean-based businesses, and ocean technology research and development as current priorities; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska Ocean Cluster's efforts to advance innovation and entrepreneurship in the state's ocean economy will move the entire state forward to catch up with global trends; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature has recognized the accomplishments of the Alaska Ocean Cluster since the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association launched the initiative in May 2017;

**BE IT RESOLVED** the Alaska State Legislature welcomes the Alaska Ocean Cluster's work toward a knowledge-based, innovative economy centered around the state's ocean resources; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** the Alaska State Legislature supports advancing the state's ocean economy through a statewide collaborative cluster and recognizes this project as necessary, lest the state be left behind as other Arctic nations realize the potential of ocean-based economies; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the current efforts and partnerships of the Alaska Ocean Cluster as critical in driving innovation, commercialization, and entrepreneurship, which are the foundations of a thriving economy; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature welcomes opportunities to collaborate with the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association's Alaska Ocean Cluster program as a partner; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the Alaska Ocean Cluster's strategy for growing the state's economy, which is focused on building a pipeline of innovation and entrepreneurship to engage and connect residents of the state in this growing ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurial spirit, capitalizing on economic

opportunities, and increasing the resilience of the state's coastal communities; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the Alaska Ocean Cluster's efforts to build sustainable, collaborative, and interconnected ocean industry networks throughout the state by acting as a facilitator and hub in the ocean economy space.