

HB

13



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

State Capitol

Juneau, AK 99801-1182

(907) 465-4989

COMMITTEE PACKET

HB 13, Marine Safety Training & Education

1. Sponsor Statement
2. Bill
3. Fiscal Note Analysis
4. Letters of Support and Documentation



REPRESENTATIVE ALAN AUSTERMAN Alaska State Legislature

P.O. Box 2368, Kodiak, Alaska 99615 (907) 486-5930 • Session: State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801 465-2487

SPONSOR STATEMENT

CSHB 13(FSH)

"An Act relating to marine safety training and education programs."

Safety training is required by the Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Act of 1988 to communities throughout Alaska. The Act, which took effect in 1991, requires a minimum in safety training and equipment for commercial fishing vessels.

Although the AMSEA organization is no longer specified in this legislation. It is anticipated that they will receive the funds provided by this bill as they are the only statewide marine safety organization and have an exemplary reputation.

The Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) has been operating in the State of Alaska for 12 years. The primary purpose of this organization is to reduce the loss of life and injury in the Alaskan marine environment by providing education through a statewide network of qualified marine safety instructors.

AMSEA also helps Alaskans by training marine safety instructors, some of whom teach drill instructor courses. Other marine safety instructors also train the Alaska boating and fishing public, including many children and adults, in marine safety. Of the 7300 people AMSEA trained in 1995, 2000 were from the commercial fishing industry, 3700 were Alaskan children, and the remaining 1600 were from all walks of life.

The Fishermen's Fund (AS 23.35.060) was created before statehood. One hundred percent of the fishermen's fund is funded by commercial fishing license fees. Sixty percent of license fees are dedicated to this fund. Since commercial fishermen are often the beneficiaries of the required marine safety training, it is appropriate to allow part of the interest on the fund to be used to fund marine safety programs.

It is estimated that the Fishermen's Fund generates approximately \$450,000 in interest a year. By way of this legislation, I am requesting up to approximately \$225,000 a year to maintain a minimum of water and boating safety in our state.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 13

Title: Marine Safety Training & Education

Dept. Affected: Revenue

BRU: Revenue Operations

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Austerman

Components: Treasury

Requestor: _____

Serial # 121

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

Full-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)

see attached analysis

Prepared by: House Finance Committee

Date: 3/5/97

Approved by: *Mark Hanley*

Phone: 465-4797

Co-Chair Mark Hanley

Gene Therriault

Phone: _____

Co-Chair Gene Therriault

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Revenue
 Title: Marine Safety Training and Education BRU: Revenue Operations
 Component: Treasury
 Sponsor: Rep. Ivan Austerman
 Requestor: (H) STA COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 121

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	239.0	239.0	239.0	239.0	239.0	239.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	239.0	239.0	239.0	239.0	239.0	239.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost \$ 0.00

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS:
 Earnings on the Fisherman's Fund currently are left with the General Fund and do not belong to the fund. This bill would allow for appropriating upto one-half of the interest that currently goes to the General Fund to be used for marine safety and education programs. Treasury will incur no additional costs if this bill is passed. While we have shown the funding source above as General Fund, it is unclear which agency would reflect the expenditure of the money as the bill does not address the administration of the programs.

ASSUMPTIONS:
 Current balance is approx \$9 million. If we assume the balance of the fund stays stable and use 5.32% (the 12/30/96 480 T-bill rate) as our interest rate assumption, the fund will earn approx \$478,000 interest per year. One-half of this amount would then be \$239,000.

Prepared by: Betty Martin, Comptroller Phone: 465-2350
 Division: Treasury Date: 2/19/97
 Approved by Commissioner: Ross Kinney, Deputy Commissioner Date: 2/19/97
 Agency: Department of Revenue

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Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

P.O. Box 2592, Sitka, Alaska 99835 PH (907) 747-3287 FAX (907) 747-1406

August 4, 1995

Alan Austerman
P.O. Box 2368
Kodiak, Ak. 99615

Dear Representative Austerman:

I am writing this letter to you in regards to funding for AMSEA's statewide training and education efforts in marine safety. Our financial situation now is critical. This summer, our budget (which comes solely from federal sources) has been cut by 75% from an already very minimal staff and low overhead program.

Through AMSEA's efforts in FY 95, over 7,500 people in trained in marine safety. Over of those trained are children, and over 1,000 were commercial fishermen, who are required to take USCG approved training in conducting emergency on board drills and survival. The AMSEA network of community based marine safety instructors has been responsible for training over 2,800 commercial fishermen in this requirement over the last 4 years. This has resulted in training being brought into over 60 Alaskan fishing ports. As a recent study has indicated (Perkins study enclosed), this training has been at least partly responsible for the 50% reduction in commercial fishing fatalities over the last 3 years in Alaska.

Alaska is the only state in the nation without a safe boating program, yet Alaska has the highest drowning rate in the nation (12x the national average). AMSEA has tried to fill in this education gap for the last 10 years, but without some state support at this point, AMSEA's efforts will be reduced to near zero.

AMSEA recognizes that fiscal belt tightening needs to occur at both the state and federal level. However, there is a source of fishermen contributed revenues that could be used to support AMSEA's work. The Fishermen's Fund was established in the early 1950's to help defray minor medical costs suffered by fishermen on the job. This fund is totally contributed to by fishermen. Income to this fund has greatly increased over the past few years and expenses keep decreasing. Although this is a grandfathered dedicated fund, the interest it is now earning goes into state general operating revenues. At this time there is over 7.2 million dollars in this Fund. AMSEA cannot and does not wish to tap into this dedicated fund's principal itself, but thinks it would make common sense to use just 50% or so of the \$300,000 in interest the Fund generates annually and put this back into injury prevention in fisheries and marine users.

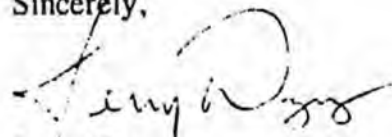
AMSEA is seeking your support for this funding in the next legislative session. We have the support from a number of fishing groups on this issue. Sitka's Representative, Ben Grussendorf is interested in working with you and Carl Moses this summer to pave the way for introducing a bill in the next legislature and working this through the budgetary process.

We hope that we can gain your support for this important work. AMSEA has worked for over

10 years to build expertise in marine safety relevant to the Alaska working, recreational and subsistence environment. It would be grossly inefficient to lose this expertise and then have to recreate it all again at a future date because the need was still great.

Please feel free to contact this office or Rep. Grussendorf if you need any other information on this matter at this time. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Jerry Dzugan
Director/Training Coordinator

c.c. Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Rep. Carl Moses

enc: Perkins study
AMSEA Accomplishments
Proposal for long term funding base for AMSEA
Port list of AMSEA outreach delivered Drill Instructor courses
AMSEA brochure

LEGAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

MEMORANDUM

February 1, 1996

SUBJECT: Fishermen's Fund (CSHB 366(HES))

TO: Representative Alan Austerman
Attn: Amy Daugherty

FROM: George Utermohle *GU*
Legislative Counsel

You have asked whether CSHB 366(HES) alters or impairs the present dedication of certain revenues to the fishermen's fund (AS 23.35.060).

The answer is no.

The fishermen's fund is composed of 60 percent of money received by the state from commercial fishermen's licenses and money appropriated to the fund by the legislature. AS 23.35.060. The dedication of commercial fishermen's license fees is valid under art. IX, sec. 7 of the Constitution of the State of Alaska because the dedication existed at the time the constitution was ratified by the voters of the Territory of Alaska.¹ Dedicated funds in existence at the time of ratification are allowed to continue. The Attorney General on numerous occasions has stated that such grandfathered dedicated funds may be destroyed if the purpose or terms of the dedication are altered. 1959 Alaska Att'y Gen. Op. No. 7; 1959 Alaska Att'y Gen. Op. No. 14; 1985 Inf. Alaska Att'y Gen. Op. (366-071-85) October 31; among several others.

¹ Article IX, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of Alaska states (emphasis added):
SECTION 7. DEDICATED FUNDS. The proceeds of any state tax or license shall not be dedicated to any special purpose, except as provided in section 15 of this article or when required by the federal government for state participation in federal programs. This provision shall not prohibit the continuance of any dedication for special purposes existing upon the date of ratification of this section by the people of Alaska.

Representative Alan A. Eerman

February 1, 1996

Page 2

CSHB 366(HES) does not alter the purpose or the terms of the dedication of certain revenue to the fishermen's fund. The bill provides that interest earned on the principal of the fishermen's fund may be appropriated by the legislature for marine safety training and education programs. The interest earned on the principal of the fund is not dedicated to the fund. The interest is deposited into the general fund and is available for appropriation by the legislature for any public purpose. See, 1982 Alaska Att'y Gen. Op. No.13, at 14 - 18, November 30; 1985 Inf. Alaska Att'y Gen. Op. (366-071-85) October 31. The bill does not alter this arrangement in the least. All the bill does is to state that the legislature may appropriate some of this interest to certain programs if the legislature so decides.

Thus the bill does not alter or impair the current dedication of commercial fishermen's license fees to the fishermen's fund or the use of those fees to provide benefits to injured fishermen.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

GU:glc

96-077.glc

**COMMISSION OF LEGAL SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA**

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

MEMORANDUM

December 28, 1994

SUBJECT: Fisherman's fund (AS 23.35)(Work Order No. 9-LS0362)

TO: Representative Ben Grussendorf
Attn: Katherine

FROM: Michael F. Ford *M.F.*
Legislative Counsel

You have asked if the fisherman's fund (AS 23.30.060) could be used to fund a program to teach safety to commercial fishermen. As explained in this memo, I believe that using the fund to teach safety could only be done if this purpose was added as a statutory purpose of the fund.

The existing benefits provided by the fund, those under AS 23.35.070 - 23.35.140, are all intended to treat fishermen who become disabled. There are no funds provided for prevention of injuries, or safety training. It could certainly be argued that prevention of accidents is directly related to the general purpose of the fund, but without statutory authority this type of expenditure would be beyond the scope of the benefits provided under existing law.

I should also point out that if the legislature alters the fund this would raise dedicated fund issues. As a fund in existence at statehood, the fisherman's fund is exempt from the prohibition against dedicated funds contained in Article IX, section 7, of the Alaska Constitution. However, the Attorney General has taken the position that no change to a grandfathered fund is permitted without destroying the legal dedication and making the fund subject to the dedicated fund clause. In short, you could modify the purpose of the fisherman's fund to permit funding for a safety program but by doing so you run the risk of destroying the dedicated fund exemption presently enjoyed by the fund.

If you have further questions on this matter please contact me.

MFF:lmb
95-063.lmb

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
Division of Legislative Finance



P.O.Box 113200
Juneau, AK 99811-3200
(907) 465-3795
FAX (907) 463-4885

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 16, 1996
TO: Representative Alan Austerman
ATTN: Amy Daugherty
FROM: Jetta Whittaker *Jetta*
Fiscal Analyst
SUBJECT: Fishermen's Fund Statistics

You asked for some general information on the Fishermen's Fund to accompany House Bill 366. I was able to determine the following from the Governor's budget detail book and conversations with the Departments of Labor and Revenue:

The Disabled Fisherman's Fund provides for assistance with the costs of occupational injuries and illness for Alaska's licensed commercial fishermen who are injured or become ill due to commercial fishing activities on shore or in Alaska waters. The fund consists of crewmember license and permit fees collected by the Department of Fish and Game and the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. Sixty percent of these license and permit fees are dedicated to the Disabled Fishermen's Fund. From crewmember licenses, which are \$30 and \$90 for residents and non-residents, respectively, the Fund collected \$994,800 in FY95. From permits issued, at \$30 and \$90 again, the Fund collected another \$396,100, for a total of \$1,390,000 in FY95.

At the close of FY95, the Fund contained \$7,367,700. The total number of claims submitted for review in FY95 was 1,237. FY95 Actuals reflect that the total amount of claims paid was \$339,400, while FY95 Authorized amount for claims was \$1,063,300.

In FY97, the Governor requests \$1,039,400 for the grants line as payment of benefits to individuals, and estimates that 2,300 claims will be submitted. The increase in expected claims is due to an effort to increase awareness of the Fund via a broader distribution of Fishermen's Fund booklets and general information in FY97.

The Department of Labor has calculated that 64% of claims submitted resulted in payment in FY93, and estimated that the claim payment rate has increased a bit since then, due to improved database tracking. The remaining claims are rejected or pended for receipt of further information.

As you know, the interest earned by the Disabled Fishermen's Fund does not return to the Fund itself, but instead is deposited in the General Fund. The Treasury Management Division in the Department of Revenue does not separately track interest earned on funds that deposit earnings into the general fund, but has prepared a fiscal note to estimate the effects of HB366. The Division estimates that \$200,000 would be available for appropriation if half of the Fund's earnings are to be redirected from the General Fund.

I hope this information proves useful to you. Please call if you have any questions.



Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

P.O. Box 2592, Sitka, Alaska 99835 PH (907) 747-3287 FAX (907) 747-1406

AMSEA FUNDING FACT SHEET

1. The State of Alaska has never funded a statewide marine safety program. Federal funds that are available for state boating safety programs are unavailable to Alaska since we have no safe boating act.
2. The State of Alaska is the only state without a safe boating program.
3. The state of Alaska has the highest drowning rate in the nation.
4. It's commercial fishing fleet also has the highest fatality rate in the nation.
5. AMSEA has filled in the states' marine safety void for the last ten years through its port based instructor network which has been funded by several small federal grants. This void has been filled at no cost to the state.
6. In FY 1995, AMSEA's budget from federal sources was cut by 20%. Due to recent Congressional action, in FY 1996, AMSEA's budget will be cut by another 75%. This will result in a budget that will not sustain AMSEA's marine safety efforts at even a basic level.
7. It is past time for the State of Alaska to assume responsibility for one of the leading cause of unintentional death in the state.
8. The interest on Alaska's Fishermen's Fund is approximately \$350,000 a year. This interest has been put into the state's general fund every year.
9. The State of Alaska can be categorically responsible by "earmarking" 50% of the interest from the Fishermen's Fund to AMSEA in FY 1996 for AMSEA's proven effective injury prevention program.
10. The cost to society of a human life is estimated at one million dollars. This does not include the additional costs injuries and fatalities add to fishing businesses every year. Not to mention the pain and suffering associated with these losses.



Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

P.O. Box 2592, Sitka, Alaska 99835 PH (907) 747-3287 FAX (907) 747-1406

AMSEA ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN LAST 10 YEARS

- * Trained over 40,000 members of the public in marine safety
- * 20,000 of those trained were children in Coastal and Interior Alaska.
- * Trained over 2,500 commercial fishermen in required Drill Instructor training in 57 Alaskan ports.
- * Trained over 400 Marine Safety Instructors who train members of the public in 50 home ports.
- * Surveys document that at least 40 lives have been saved as a result of AMSEA training.
- * A recent study has found that AMSEA's training had been responsible in part for the 50% reduction in commercial fishing fatalities in the last several years.
- * Brought marine safety training into numerous remote Alaskan schools statewide.
- * Sends out over 1,300 Marine Safety Update publications to mariners in Alaska 4 times a year.
- * Acts as a clearinghouse for marine safety information. AMSEA's curriculum is a standardized curriculum on marine safety relevant to the Alaskan environment.
- * Maintains an inventory of marine safety videos, supplies and training equipment to loan.
- * Has written and produced award winning marine safety publications, displays and videos.
- * Coordinated marine safety training efforts with over 50 public and private agencies.
- * Worked with the Coast Guard to problem solve marine safety equipment problems and regulations.
- * Helped members of the public access marine safety equipment resources.

AMSEA's efforts in marine safety have been recognized by awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Safety Council, U.S. Marine Safety Association and the Alaska Safety Advisory Council, among other awards.

Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

*Dedicated to Providing Quality
Marine Safety Education*



AMSEA Membership Information

Newsletter Subscription Only	\$15.00	Group	\$100.00
Individual	\$20.00	Sustaining	\$500.00

Name _____

Address _____

City, ZIP _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____



All members receive the quarterly newsletter, *Marine Safety Update*. Group and Sustaining members receive recognition in the publication. The membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Those paying dues between October 1 and December 31 will be paid through the following year.

Send membership to: AMSEA, P.O. Box 2592, Sitka, Alaska 99835 (907) 747-3287

As a NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, AMSEA is funded by public grants and private donations. We are also supported by a dedicated group of volunteers and by a cooperative effort between a number of organizations concerned about marine safety and survival in Alaska. Support members include:

- United States Coast Guard
17th District
- Alaska Department of Health
and Social Services,
Emergency Medical Services Section
- State of Alaska
Department of Education
Alaska Vocational Technical Center
- Alaska Department of Public Safety
- Northstar Survival, Inc.
- Southeast Alaska Regional
Health Corporation
- Southeast Region Emergency
Medical Services Council
- University of Alaska
Marine Advisory Program
- Alaska Native Health Service

Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) provides training without discrimination because of race, color, age, sex, national origin, religious beliefs, or handicapping conditions.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

* Safety training saves lives

Leroy Fox's survival following a fire aboard his commercial fishing vessel near Togiak recently was no accident. As news accounts correctly pointed out, he lived because of a federal law passed nearly a decade ago that required he have survival equipment on board.

But the law is not in itself the reason Leroy Fox is alive to tell his tale.

Fox's preparedness reflects a changing attitude among fishermen that puts safety above machismo in what will always be an inherently dangerous industry. Those attitude changes, while spurred by passage in 1988 of the Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Act, are due in larger measure to the efforts of many people to provide safety information, education and training to fishermen.

Sea-safety training is offered by groups including the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association, the University of Alaska Sea Grant and Marine Advisory Programs, and the U.S. Coast Guard. In the past 10 years, members of these groups have personally trained thousands of fishermen to use survival equipment and deal with life-and-death situations at sea. People like Jerry Dzugan of AMSEA, Hank Pennington of the Marine Advisory Program, Lt. Cmdr (retired) Glenn Sicks of the U.S. Coast Guard and so many others deserve mention and credit. These dedicated people made it their business to change the way fishing is done in Alaska.

Although it was difficult to change deeply-rooted attitudes in Alaska's fishing culture, the effort has paid off. Safety is a priority in the industry, and as a result more fishermen return home from the sea to their families than ever before. Last year, Alaska saw the lowest number of fishing-related deaths since the law was passed.

— Ron Dearborn, director
Alaska Sea Grant College Program

Anchor...
B9
9/2/86

February 11, 1997

Representative Con Bunde
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS3100)
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dear Representative Bunde,


I am writing in support of HB 13, designed to use some of the interest from the Fishermen's Fund to support the educational activities of the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA).

I am a constituent of yours. My family have held a commercial salmon permit in Bristol Bay since 1998. Before that, we fished on the Yukon River. Each year, we hire at least two crewmembers who are required by law to purchase a crewmember's license. Sixty percent of that money goes into the Fishermen's Fund, designed to pay medical costs of uninsured, injured fishermen up to \$2,500.

AMSEA proposes that a percentage of the interest on this fund be used to educate fishermen and crewmembers about safety and survival. I can think of no better use for this money. The majority of our crew are new to fishing when they are hired by us. The training that we have received from AMSEA has enabled us to set safety guidelines and teach these young people how to prepare and how to react on board fishing vessels. AMSEA's training is excellent, and is geared to adults and children, commercial and recreational boat users.

They are a small, but extremely effective group that makes a big difference. Please support this bill.

Sincerely,



Peter Crimp
5100 E 142nd Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99516



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

211 West 7th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 272-2704
FAX: (907) 272-5269

North Pacific Fisheries
OBSERVER TRAINING PROGRAM
COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY AND
CONTINUING EDUCATION

February 11, 1997

Senator Sean Parnell
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS3100)
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dear Senator Parnell,

I am writing on behalf of the approximately 350 groundfish and shellfish observers working in Alaska's commercial fisheries, in support of HB 13. The bill directs a percentage of the annual interest from the Fishermen's fund toward the educational activities of the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association. The Fishermen's Fund is in support of this bill.

The Observer Training Center is a subset of the University of Alaska Anchorage. Annually, we train over 150 observers for either the National Marine Fisheries Service's groundfish program or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's crab and scallop program. Following training, observers head out to sea for approximately 90 days, collecting biological information about target fisheries, bycatch, birds and marine mammals. Approximately 25% of the observers trained in Anchorage are Alaska residents.

Safety training encompasses a full day of our training and is critical to the well being of our observers, many of whom have never been to sea before. Both of our instructors have gone through AMSEA's safety instructor training program. AMSEA's curriculum materials, including videos and handouts are used in all of our training classes.

Without reservation, I can say that AMSEA's training and materials are top notch. Their program has been instrumental in ensuring the safety of observers. AMSEA's staff is approachable and flexible; their materials are affordable and are clearly in touch with Alaska's commercial fishing industry.

I urge you to support AMSEA in face of their financial cuts from Congress. They are undoubtedly one of the most valuable programs to the State's commercial fishing industry.

Sincerely,
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula Cullenberg".

Paula Cullenberg, Director
North Pacific Fisheries Observer Training Center

APR-19-1995 10:17 FROM S.E. REGION EMS COUNCIL TO 19074654956 P.04

AMSEA Proposed Budget

**Secured FY 96 Funding
NIOSH**

**Requested Funding
State of Alaska**

Personnel					
Director/Training Coordinator FTE	52,216.32		20,927.00		31,289.32
Administrative Assistant FTE	38,582.58		15,426.00		23,137.56
Training Assistant PTE	21,330.27		0.00		21,330.27
Trainers PTE-seasonal	7,890.85		0.00		7,890.85
		120,000.00		36,352.00	
Travel					
Travel/accomodation/food	10,000.00		0.00		10,000.00
		10,000.00		0.00	
Facility					
telephone	3,500.00		0.00		3,500.00
postage	2,750.00		0.00		2,750.00
rent	3,750.00		0.00		3,750.00
		10,000.00		0.00	
Supplies					
office	2,000.00		0.00		2,000.00
training	4,000.00		0.00		4,000.00
		6,000.00		0.00	
Equipment	3,000.00		0.00		3,000.00
		3,000.00		0.00	
Other					
audit	4,000.00		0.00		4,000.00
freight	1,000.00		0.00		1,000.00
insurance	4,000.00		0.00		4,000.00
printing	1,000.00		0.00		1,000.00
		10,000.00		0.00	
Total		159,000.00		36,352.00	122,648.00

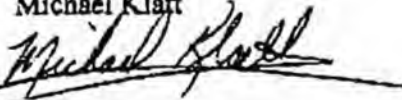
rev. 4-18-95

To: Representative Alan Austerman

As a safety and health professional, I am keenly aware of the importance of training to prevent drownings and cold water immersion, hypothermic-related deaths. Unfortunately, our State has the highest work and non-work-related drowning rates in the nation. A recent study by the Alaska Area Native Health Service showed that all the commercial fishermen, who had received marine safety training from the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association and who were involved in a vessel sinking/capsizing or man-overboard event, survived, while many others perished. Therefore, I strongly encouraged that members of the House Finance Committee and the House as a whole pass HB 366. Please share this with members of the House Finance Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Klatt



Public Health Advisor
Alaska Field Station
Division of Safety Research
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

&

Chairman
Alaska Federal Safety and Health Council

&

Co-chair
Interagency Working Group for the Prevention of Occupational Injuries in Alaska

3151 Rosalind Loop
Anchorage, AK 99507
271-2382 (w)
349-3419 (h)