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<TARGET><BILL>HB 131</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
131</SUBJECT><COMM>SF IN27</COMM></TARGET>



# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version  
Fiscal Note Number  
Publish Date

CSHB 131(TRA)  
3  
1/27/12 (H)

Identifier (file name) HB131-DOT-PD-1-15-12

Dept. Affected DOT&PF

Title Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board

Appropriation Administration and Support  
Allocation Program Development

Sponsor Rep. Munoz, Tuck, Gruenberg, Gara  
Requester H (RLS)

OMB Component Number 2762

**Expenditures/Revenues**

(Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in FY13 Governor's Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	
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	
Services	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Commodities	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Capital Outlay	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Grants, Benefits	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	
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	
<b>FUND SOURCE</b> (Thousands of Dollars)								
1002 Federal Receipts	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1003 GF Match	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1004 GF	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1037 GF/MH (UGF)	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1178 temp code (UGF)	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	

POSITIONS	Full-time	Part-time	Temporary
CHANGE IN REVENUES			

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs \_\_\_\_\_ 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs \_\_\_\_\_ 112.5 (separate capital appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)  
Updated from the 2011 fiscal note. Previous version showed cost of \$110.0. No appropriations will be required as this will be covered with existing Federal Capital transit grants. See analysis.

Prepared by Brenda Hewitt  
Division Commissioner's Office  
Approved by Marc Luiken  
Commissioner

Phone 465-4772  
Date/Time 1/15/12 10:00 AM  
Date 1/15/2012

**Analysis**

The Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force was re-established July 9, 2010 by Governor Parrell under Administrative Order 254. The Task Force is temporary and this legislation seeks to make it permanent with a sunset date of 2016.

HB131 would also increase the size of the board by one member to a total of 13. Agency representatives include: Transportation, Health and Social Services, Labor, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and the Denali Commission. There are eight public members representing various constituencies.

Federal capital funds have covered the operation of this temporary task force for the past four years and there is no impact to the state budget. This fiscal note reflects capital dollars as a pass through from the federal government to the state.

Expenses are similar to current support for the Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force. Federal receipts (Federal Transit Administration) for program planning (with state match) augmented by Alaska Mental Health Trust funds in the Department's capital budget supports a facilitator contract. The contract covers planning, three meetings, monthly conference calls, reports and travel reimbursement for non-agency members of the board. State and federal agency members of the board cover travel expenses from their operating budgets.

DOT&PF expenses (capital): \$112.5K annually (fed receipts 90K, state match \$11.2K, MH-GF \$11.3K)

Travel cost assumptions			
Airfare	\$500		
Lodging	\$300		
Per diem	\$120		
Ground transportation	<u>\$80</u>		
TOTAL	\$1,000		
Annual costs			
Department representative		# of trips	TOTAL
		3	\$3K
Non agency members (8)		24	\$24K
Facilitator contract			<u>\$85.5</u>
Total annual cost			\$112.5

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 131(FIN)  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MUÑOZ, Tuck, Gruenberg, Gara, Kawasaki, Kerttula, Cissna,  
Guttenberg, Peggy Wilson, Saddler, Neuman, Johansen

SENATOR Ellis

A BILL  
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board  
2 and relating to a long-range community and public transportation plan; and providing  
3 for an effective date."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 \*Section 1. AS 44.42 is amended by adding new sections to article 1 to read:

6       Sec. 44.42.085. **Comprehensive long-range community and public**  
7 **transportation plan.** (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the Alaska  
8 Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board, shall

9       (1) prepare a comprehensive long-range plan for the development and  
10 improvement of coordinated community and public transportation; and  
11       (2) revise and update the plan at intervals determined by the  
12 commissioner.

13       (b) The department shall submit the comprehensive long-range plan and  
14 revisions and updates of the plan to the governor and the legislature.

15       Sec. 44.42.090. **Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory**

1 **Board.** (a) The Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board is  
2 established in the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

3 (b) The board consists of 13 members. Each member shall be a resident of the  
4 state. The board is composed of the following members:

5 (1) the commissioner of transportation and public facilities or the  
6 commissioner's designee;

7 (2) the commissioner of the health and social services or the  
8 commissioner's designee;

9 (3) the commissioner of labor and workforce development or the  
10 commissioner's designee;

11 (4) the chair of the board of trustees of the Alaska Mental Health Trust  
12 Authority or the chair's designee;

13 (5) the state co-chair of the Denali Commission established under P.L.  
14 105-277, 42 U.S.C. 3121 note, or the state co-chair's designee;

15 (6) three members with expertise in the transportation needs of senior  
16 citizens, persons with disabilities or special circumstances, individuals of low income,  
17 or transit-dependent individuals;

18 (7) one member who represents municipalities that operate modes of  
19 public transportation;

20 (8) one member who represents nonprofit organizations that operate  
21 modes of public transportation;

22 (9) one member who represents transportation providers that receive  
23 federal funding available to Indian tribes, including financing provided under 23  
24 U.S.C. 204(g) and 49 U.S.C. 5311(c); and

25 (10) two members of the public at large.

26 (c) The members described in (b)(6) - (10) of this section shall be appointed  
27 by the governor, and the governor shall provide for appropriate geographic  
28 distribution of members to the extent possible.

29 (d) The members of the board listed in (b)(6) - (10) of this section serve  
30 staggered three-year terms. If a vacancy arises on the board, the governor shall, within  
31 60 days after the vacancy arises, appoint a person to serve the balance of the unexpired

1 term. A person appointed to fill the balance of an unexpired term shall serve on the  
2 board from the date of appointment until the expiration of the term.

3 (e) Board members serve at the pleasure of the governor. In addition, a  
4 majority of the membership of the board may petition the governor to remove a  
5 member listed in (b)(6) - (10) of this section if that member misses more than two  
6 meetings in a calendar year, or is otherwise unable to serve, and has not been  
7 previously excused.

8 (f) The members of the board shall select a chair and a vice-chair from among  
9 the members of the board each year. The vice-chair presides over meetings in the  
10 absence of the chair. A majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum. A  
11 vacancy in the board does not impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the powers  
12 and perform all the duties of the board.

13 (g) The board shall meet at least three times each year. Meetings may be  
14 called by the chair or by a majority of the members of the board. At least one meeting  
15 each year must be attended by the board members in person, but all other meetings  
16 may be conducted by teleconference. All meetings are open to the public unless an  
17 executive session is called based on the criteria in AS 44.62.310(b).

18 (h) Members of the board do not receive a salary but are entitled to per diem  
19 and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

20 (i) The Department of Law shall provide all legal services for the board.

21 (j) The department shall provide staff for the board.

22 **Sec. 44.42.095. Powers, duties, and functions of the Alaska Community**  
23 **and Transportation Advisory Board.** (a) The Alaska Community and Transportation

24 Advisory Board may issue reports and recommendations and shall, in cooperation  
25 with the department, prepare and submit to the department and the governor for  
26 review a strategic plan that includes the mission, objectives, initiatives, and  
27 performance goals for coordinated community and public transportation in the state.

28 (b) The board shall analyze community and public transportation services in  
29 the state and make recommendations for improved agency coordination and  
30 combining of services to achieve cost savings in the funding and delivery of  
31 community and public transportation services. The board shall assess the community

1 and public transportation needs of Alaskans and recommend means for the removal of  
2 barriers that prevent coordination of services to meet those needs.

3 (c) The board shall annually review funding available

4 (1) to state, federal, and local government agencies and private entities  
5 that administer or support community and public transportation services and  
6 recommend to the governor and the legislature changes to improve effective use of  
7 that funding; and

8 (2) from federal sources for the expenses of the board and report that  
9 information to the governor, the chairs of the senate and house finance committees,  
10 and the chairs of the senate and house transportation committees.

11 (d) The board may establish volunteer regional or local advisory committees.  
12 The purpose of the advisory committees is to provide recommendations to the board to  
13 address concerns of the regions and local areas of the advisory committee members.

14 (e) The board may receive information from the department as the board  
15 considers necessary to carry out its duties.

16 (f) The board shall analyze the use of alternative fuels, including compressed  
17 natural gas, propane, and biodiesel in community and public transportation vehicle  
18 fleets and make recommendations for the use of alternative fuel vehicles where cost  
19 effective.

20 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 44.42.085(a), as enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, is amended to read:

21 (a) The commissioner [, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ALASKA  
22 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD,] shall

23 (1) prepare a comprehensive long-range plan for the development and  
24 improvement of coordinated community and public transportation; and

25 (2) revise and update the plan at intervals determined by the  
26 commissioner.

27 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 44.42.090 and 44.42.095 are repealed December 31, 2016.

28 \* **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
29 read:

30 INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA COMMUNITY AND  
31 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD. (a) Notwithstanding AS 44.42.090(d),

1 added by sec. 1 of this Act, and AS 39.05.055, members described in AS 44.42.090(b)(6) -  
2 (10) who are appointed initially to the Alaska Community and Public Transportation  
3 Advisory Board shall be appointed by the governor to terms as follows:

- 4 (1) two members shall serve one-year terms;
- 5 (2) three members shall serve two-year terms; and
- 6 (3) three members shall serve three-year terms.

7 (b) The governor may designate a member of the Governor's Coordinated  
8 Transportation Task Force, created by Administrative Order No. 254, who is serving as a task  
9 force member on the day before the effective date of this section, as a member of the initial  
10 Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board under (a) of this section if the  
11 member meets the requirements in AS 44.42.090, added by sec. 1 of this Act. Nothing in this  
12 subsection prevents the governor from appointing members to the board who do not serve on  
13 the Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force.

14 \* **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2017.

15 \* **Sec. 6.** Except as provided in sec. 5 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under  
16 AS 01.10.070(c).

ADOPTED 4/13/12

27-LS04181  
Martin  
4/10/12

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 131 ( )  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MUÑOZ, Tuck, Gruenberg, Gara, Kawasaki, Kerttula, Cissna,  
Guttenberg, Peggy Wilson, Saddler, Neuman, Johansen

SENATOR Eliis

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act establishing the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board  
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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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commissioner.

(b) The department shall submit the comprehensive long-range plan and  
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14 the Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force.

15 \* **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2017.

16 \* **Sec. 6.** Except as provided in sec. 5 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under  
17 AS 01.10.070(c).



## REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MUÑOZ

### **HB131: Community & Transportation Advisory Board**

House Bill 131 creates a Community and Transportation Advisory Board which will assist in the development and procedural recommendations for existing programs of state, federal and local agencies that provide community-based transportation services. Public and community transportation is integral in connecting communities, supporting development and serving our most vulnerable constituents.

The designation of this board is a recommendation from the Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force which was released in the February 2010 Recommendations Report. The board will continue efforts to address public and community transportation and help fill the gap in transportation for individuals who require more specialized travel – senior citizens, low income individuals, persons with disabilities, and those who are transit-dependent.

The board will consist of 13 members from departments within state and local governments, Denali Commission, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, non-profits, and those with expertise in transportation needs for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and transit-dependent individuals. This broad range of membership will facilitate communication and strategies that will benefit communities of all sizes.

HB131 has support from the Alaska Mobility Coalition, the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, the Alaska Commission on Aging, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Alaska Brain Injury Network, and the Alaska Suicide Prevention Council.

# LEGAL SERVICES

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

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

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

## MEMORANDUM

February 2, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Sectional summary of HB 131 (Work Order No. 27-LS0418(M))

**TO:** Representative Cathy Muñoz  
Attn: Kendra Kloster

**FROM:** Brian J. Kane *BJK*  
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of HB 131, a bill establishing the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board and relating to a long-range community and public transportation plan.

Please note that a sectional summary of a bill is not an authoritative interpretation of a bill. The bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1 of the bill requires the commissioner to prepare and revise a long-range plan for community and public transportation and consult with the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board in drafting the plan. It also establishes the advisory board and lists the powers and duties of the board.

Section 2 of the bill makes a change to conform with the December 31, 2016, sunset date of the advisory board.

Section 3 of the bill sunsets the advisory board on December 31, 2016.

Section 4 of the bill relates to the initial appointment of members of the advisory board.

Sections 5 and 6 of the bill state effective dates for the bill.

BJK:ljw  
11-064.ljw

**Excerpted from the February 11, 2010 Governors Coordinated Transportation Task Force Executive Summary Long Term Recommendations:**

**“The Governor’s Coordinated Transportation Task Force (CTTF), tasked under Administrative Order 243 to “facilitate and enhance the coordination and integration of community-based public transportation services for the benefit of persons with special needs,” is pleased to present this Recommendations Report to the State for consideration and implementation.**

**Recommendations – Long Term**

**The CTTF recommends that:**

I. The State of Alaska enact a statute that establishes, enables and requires coordination of community-based transportation services that utilize state and federal grant funding. The statute would:

**A. Establish a Governor-appointed Coordinated Transportation Commission, composed of a broad cross-section of agencies with responsibility for transportation, related human services, and advocates for special populations. The Commission would be established for a four-year period, with a review at that juncture to determine whether to continue or to sunset the Commission. This would be accompanied by a funding commitment that will not negatively impact the existing limited funding for public transportation activities throughout the state. The Commission would:**

Oversee, implement, assess and periodically update the Coordinated Transportation Action Plan generated by the reconstituted CTTF, which brings to fruition the recommendations generated in this report..

Continue to identify, coordinate and leverage collective state agency resources so that they are most efficiently and effectively providing transportation services to persons with special needs

Continue to identify and address barriers to coordination in addition to those identified and addressed in this report as the coordinated system evolves and matures.

Advocate for a uniform budgeting structure that tracks and reports transportation expenditures on state clients.

State agency tracking and reporting on transportation expenditures is essential to effective, measurable coordination and leveraging state resources. Such data collected, updated, used and shared will meet federal accounting requirements, facilitate coordination and help best leverage state resources. State-funded expenditures on human service public transportation identified through this tracking mechanism can be used as match money to increase the availability of federal funding for transportation.

Develop and establish performance measures that identify entities that receive any type of public funding and measure coordination efforts through a statewide data base.

Performance measures need to specifically address and evaluate the effectiveness of coordinating and providing transportation services for people with special needs, which are measures that would look

quantifiably different and possibly in addition to standard transit measurements typically used today. Emerging legislation from Congress is establishing performance measurements as a new requirement of virtually every federally funded program. This recommendation also recognizes that measuring performance will be a new requirement for many agencies.

Articulate issues of policy and decision-making criteria associated with coordination plan implementation.

Develop a minimum taxicab standard for state-owned facilities such as airports and ferries to ensure those with disabilities are not overlooked.

State-owned ferry or airport terminals are a major destination for taxi businesses. To ensure those with disabilities are not overlooked, generate accessibility standards or regulations for taxicab businesses serving state-owned facilities, which includes a provision for permitted use of designated pickup and drop off zones. Alternate strategies include a recommendation for local government taxi codes that establish minimum capacity for accessible taxicabs and establish a basic standard in state law.

#### Governors Coordinated Transportation Task Force

Identify and address barriers to coordination associated with vehicle insurance, including cost, joint coverage, policy writing, and the sharing of publicly funded transportation vehicle assets.

Prepare an annual report to the State Legislature that summarizes the status of coordinated transportation within the state and make recommendations as appropriate."

# The TRUST

The Alaska Mental Health  
Trust Authority



**Governor's Council on Disabilities  
and Special Education**



**Advisory Board on Alcoholism  
and Drug Abuse**

The logo consists of the stylized text "abada" above "amhb" with a small graphic of a person's head and shoulders between the two words.

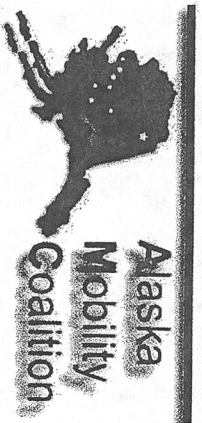
Alaska Mental Health Board

## Coordinated Transportation for Alaskans

Working with the Alaska Mobility Coalition (AMC), the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Alaska Mental Health Board, Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Alaska Commission on Aging, in collaboration with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the Alaska Brain Injury Network and the Alaska Suicide Prevention Council, have identified as two of their joint priorities, the creation of legislation addressing the role of public and community transportation in Alaska and the establishment of a permanent Coordinated Transportation Commission. The partner boards also support the creation of a statewide fund for public and community transportation in Alaska. Following are overviews of these priorities:

Creation of legislation identifying 1) the role of public and community transportation in Alaska and 2) establishing a permanent commission to address public and community transportation in Alaska. Alaska does not have enabling statutes within state law that define the state's role in public and community transportation. This role should be defined and developed to serve all public and community transportation users – including Alaskans with disabilities. Additionally, in July 2010, Governor Parnell signed an administrative order reestablishing a statewide task force on public and community transportation in Alaska that has a sunset provision (January 2012). The AMC and the partner boards believe a permanent commission will be needed to address the ongoing transportation needs of Alaskans across the state.

Creation of a statewide fund for public and community transportation in Alaska. Alaska is one of only three states that does not provide operating support for public transportation. Therefore, in Alaska, the burden shifts to local governments, tribal governments, and non-profits to partner with the federal government to provide these services. In some cases, transit agencies have had to turn down federal money because they did not have the match funds available. This has had an impact on all users of public transportation, particularly in tough economic times when bus fares have increased and hours of service have been cut back. The boards support requesting \$3 million dollars to partner with local transit systems, with a match requirement (in kind or cash) for transit systems to participate in the program.



**Achieving mobility through community appropriate transportation services**

3705 Arctic Blvd #1777  
Anchorage, AK 99503.  
907-240-2702

February 15, 2011

Representative Cathy Munoz  
State Capitol Room 403  
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Representative Munoz:

On behalf of the Alaska Mobility Coalition (AMC), we strongly support HB 131 (Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board).

The AMC is a private, non-profit membership organization that represents and advocates for public and community transportation in Alaska. The AMC has ninety seven members across the state from Bethel to Prince of Wales Island. The AMC membership provides over seven million rides annually for Alaskans to get to work, school, shopping trips, recreational opportunities and medical appointments. For more information on the AMC, I have linked information from our website for your review (<http://www.alaskamobility.org>)

In the fall of 2008, former Governor Sarah Palin signed an administrative order creating the Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force. I have linked copy of the final report for your review.

([http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/cttf/docs/CTTF\\_recommendations\\_report\\_signed\\_021101.pdf](http://www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/cttf/docs/CTTF_recommendations_report_signed_021101.pdf)) The Governor task force recommended and we agree, that there needs to be a permanent voice at the state level to make state agencies to work together to share information and resources on coordinated transportation in Alaska.

Thank you for your efforts in supporting transit in Alaska. I look forward to working with you and the Alaska legislature on your legislation during the current session.

Sincerely,

David M. Levy  
Executive Director

[www.alaskamobility.org](http://www.alaskamobility.org)

[alaskamobility@gmail.com](mailto:alaskamobility@gmail.com)

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPT. OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

P. O. BOX 110693  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0693  
PHONE: (907) 465-3250  
FAX: (907) 465-1398

Alaska Commission on Aging

March 16, 2011

The Honorable Peggy Wilson, Chair  
House Transportation Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 408  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

**Subject: Support for HB 131, Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board**

Dear Chair Wilson:

The Alaska Commission on Aging (ACOA) is pleased to offer our support of HB 131 that would establish a *permanent* Governor-appointed Coordinated Transportation Commission to address the ongoing community transportation needs of all Alaskans, specifically older Alaskans and Alaskans with physical and cognitive disabilities. This advisory board would be responsible for developing a long-range coordinated transportation plan that would include participating in policy-making decisions related to mobility of seniors and people with disabilities, identifying barriers related to community transportation, encouraging regional transportation planning to maximize limited resources and improving efficiencies, and providing assistance with coordinating resources to improve transportation services for people with special needs.

Transportation is one of the top needs consistently identified in statewide surveys of senior needs, including the elder-senior community forums and a statewide senior survey recently conducted by ACOA to determine priority concerns of older Alaskans. Seniors identified transportation not only as a barrier to accessing health care services but also as a factor leading to social isolation that prevents seniors from taking part in community life.


With the graying of Alaska's population, there will be an increasing number of older Alaskans who depend on reliable, safe, and accessible mobility options to take them to medical appointments, work, and volunteer placements, to the senior center for lunch, shopping and other purposes. Community transportation is a life-line for seniors and people with disabilities to ensure a health quality of life. Planning for effective transportation and efficient use of resources that serves all Alaskans is an investment in our future.

Thank you for your consideration and support of HB 131. Please contact Denise Daniello, ACOA's executive director (465-4879 or [denise.daniello@alaska.gov](mailto:denise.daniello@alaska.gov)) should you require additional information about our position.

Sincerely,

  
Sharon Howerton-Clark  
Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging

Sincerely,

  
Denise Daniello  
ACOA Executive Director

Cc: Vice-Chair Lance Pruitt  
Representative Eric Feige  
Representative Craig Johnson

Representative Max Gruenberg  
Representative Pete Peterson  
Representative Cathy Muñoz



AARP Alaska  
3601 C Street  
Suite 1420  
Anchorage, AK 99503

T 1-866-227-7447  
F 907-341-2270  
TTY 1-877-434-7598  
[www.aarp.org/ak](http://www.aarp.org/ak)

March 14, 2011

The Honorable Peggy Wilson, Chair  
House Transportation Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 408  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 131 (Munoz)--Support

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House Transportation Committee to support HB 131, authored by your Committee colleague Representative Cathy Munoz and co-sponsored by Representative Chris Tuck.

HB 131 will establish an Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board which will have the opportunity to participate in long-range transportation planning.

From AARP's perspective, we would expect that the Advisory Board, among its other duties, would

- Consider the effects of transportation planning and land-use decisions on the mobility of older Alaskans and people with disabilities
- Coordinate planning and programming activities to ensure that regional priorities are reflected in fiscally constrained state transportation plans
- Examine the benefits of public transportation service improvements before undertaking major road-building projects; and
- Actively promote the public participation of consumers, including older people, in transportation planning decisions on such issues as routing services, placing and designing highways and roads, transportation demand management, and investing in and deploying intelligent transportation systems.

With the aging of Alaska's population, we will have an increasing number of older Alaskans for whom mobility will be a critical "peace of mind" issue. Planning for effective transportation that works for Alaskans of all ages and abilities is important now and will only become more important in the future.

AARP requests an "AYE" vote on HB 131.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Marie Darlin*

Marie Darlin, Coordinator  
AARP Capital City Task Force  
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506  
Juneau, AK 99801  
586-3637 (voice)  
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Lance Pruitt  
Representative Eric Feige  
Representative Craig Johnson  
Representative Max Gruenberg  
Representative Pete Peterson  
Representative Cathy Munoz



JEDC.org  
612 West Willoughby Ave.  
Suite A  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone 907-523-2300  
Fax 907-463-3929

March 15, 2011

Honorable Cathy Munoz  
State Capitol Room 403  
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Representative Munoz:

The Juneau Economic Development Council (JEDC) enthusiastically supports HB 131 that will found a permanent Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board.

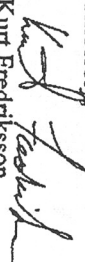
Public transportation provides positive economic impacts in small communities. A 2010 study entitled "The Economic Effects of Bus Transit in Small Cities" showed that the presence of bus transit significantly lowers unemployment rates, lowers growth in family assistance and food stamp payments, and increases population and employment. These findings suggest transit increases low-income individuals' ability to get and maintain jobs.

JEDC staff conducted executive interviews with ten of Juneau's larger private employers to ask how public transportation issues impacted business operations in regards to their employees. Six of these organizations, including Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Fred Meyers, Warehouse Demo Services (an employer at Costco), Goldbelt Hotel, and Safeway reported a significant number of their employees use the bus. Public transit use estimates among employees in these organizations ranged from 30% to 75%.

Combined, these organizations have more than 350 employees using public transportation to get to work. Generally the business operations of these establishments, along with the work schedules of their employees, are highly impacted by public transit schedules and bus stop locations. These and other businesses, rely on public transportation to be successful in our community.

Our recent work with the City and Borough of Juneau, Southeast Alaska Independent Living, REACH, Southeast Senior Services and the Alaska Mobility Coalition to develop a coordinated transportation plan for Juneau has demonstrated that a collaborative, integrated effort to coordinate transportation resources is in the best interests of our state and its citizens.

Sincerely,

  
Kurt Fredriksson  
Board Chair

  
Brian Holst  
Executive Director

Cc: Senator Dennis Egan  
Representative Beth Kerttula



JEDC.org  
612 West Willoughby Ave.  
Suite A  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone 907-523-2300  
Fax 907-463-3929

March 15, 2011

Honorable Cathy Munoz  
State Capitol Room 403  
Juneau AK, 99801

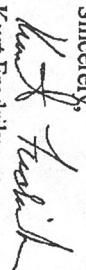
Dear Representative Munoz:

While the Juneau Economic Development Council (JEDC) enthusiastically supports HB 131 and appreciates your leadership in developing statewide coordinated transportation planning, we are concerned the Advisory Board composition proposed in HB 131 has too few members which actually operate public transportation systems.

In FY10, Juneau residents and visitors took 1.23 million trips on the local Capital Transit bus system. This represents 3,380 rides per day, and a 22 percent increase over FY2002. The Capital City Transit system is currently working at capacity.

JEDC strongly suggests HB 131 be amended to add one additional municipality to the membership of the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

  
Kurt Fredriksson  
Board Chair

  
Brian Holst  
Executive Director

Cc: Senator Dennis Egan  
Representative Beth Kerttula



**RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors in support of State of Alaska House Bill 131**

"An Act establishing the Alaska Community and Public Transportation Advisory Board and relating to a long-range community and public transportation plan; and providing for an effective date."

Resolution 03-11

**WHEREAS**, JEDC has provided leadership for completion of the City and Borough of Juneau's (CBJ's) coordinated transportation plan.

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Coordinated Transportation Task Force recommended there should be a permanent authority at the state level to ensure state agencies work together to share information and resources on coordinated transportation in Alaska.

**WHEREAS**, coordination of transportation plans among state and local governments and other organizations providing transportation services is likely to be a requirement for federal transportation funding.

**WHEREAS**, the availability of public transportation is a key requirement for maintaining an adequate workforce for service jobs.

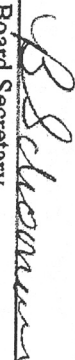
**WHEREAS**, House Bill 131 is a legislative priority for the Alaska Mobility Coalition, the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, the Alaska Commission on Aging, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Alaska Brain Injury Network and the Alaska Suicide Prevention Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2011, the Board of Directors of the Juneau Economic Development Council hereby authorizes JEDC to issue appropriate letters of support for House Bill 131.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

3-17-2011  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

3.17.2011  
Date