

**SB**

**24**

<TARGET><BILL>SB 24</BILL><SUBJECT>SB  
24</SUBJECT><COMM>STRA28</COMM></TARGET>

## SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/18/13

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: \_\_\_\_\_  
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 2/19/13

Transportation Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 24

### SB 24-MARINE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

"An Act relating to the Alaska Marine Transportation Advisory Board."

and recommends:

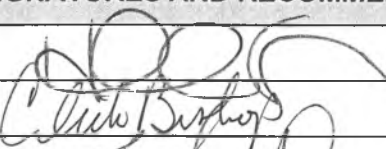
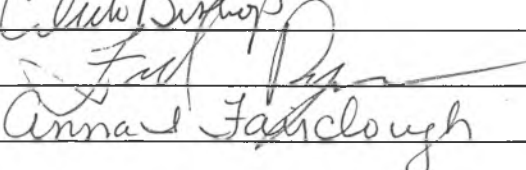

- be replaced with CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) [ ] Same Title [ ] New Title
- adopt previous CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) [ ] Same Title [ ] New Title
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
DOT	✓			1

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	Do PASS	Do NOT PASS	No REC	AMEND
	French Bishop			✓	
	Dygar FAIRCLOUGH	✓			
CHAIR: 	EVAN	✓			

SESSION ADDRESS:  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4925  
Fax: (907) 465-3517  
Toll Free: 1-800-821-4925

*Senator Gary Stevens*  
*Alaska State Legislature*

INTERIM ADDRESS:  
112 Mill Bay Road  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615  
(907) 486-4925  
Fax: (907) 486-5264

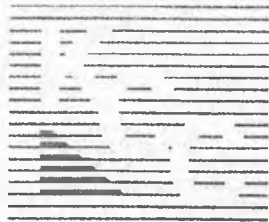


**Sponsor Statement for Senate Bill 24**  
**“An Act relating to the Alaska Marine Transportation Advisory Board”**

Senate Bill 24 alters the makeup of the Alaska Marine Transportation Advisory Board (MTAB) by adding a twelfth seat designated for a representative from Southcentral Alaska (Homer, Kodiak, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Port Lions and Seldovia). The bill separates these communities from their current inclusion in the Southwest Alaska region MTAB designated seat, to create the new seat. The bill also adds Gustavus to the list of communities from which a person can be appointed to represent the northern Southeast Alaska district on the board.

Originally created by executive order in 2003, MTAB was set in statute in 2009. Among the board’s functions are working with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities on a strategic plan related to the Alaska Marine Highway System’s (AMHS) mission, objectives, initiatives and performance goals. MTAB meetings often serve as a forum for public comments regarding AMHS scheduling matters.

While not guaranteeing a position on the MTAB board to a resident of a particular Kodiak Island or Kachemak Bay community, it does afford them a better opportunity to have representation than currently available in the larger Southwest district. The addition of Gustavus to northern Southeast Alaska district will have the same effect. This is straightforward legislation intended to help communities who rely on AMHS service obtain a seat at the table and a chance for their voices to be heard. I urge your support of this legislation.



**KODIAK  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

100 E. Marine Way, Suite 300, Kodiak Alaska 99615 • (907) 486-5557 • FAX: (907) 486-7605  
www.kodiak.org • Email: chamber@kodiak.org

January 24, 2013

Senator Gary Stevens  
State of Alaska 28<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
State Capitol Room 429  
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Stevens,

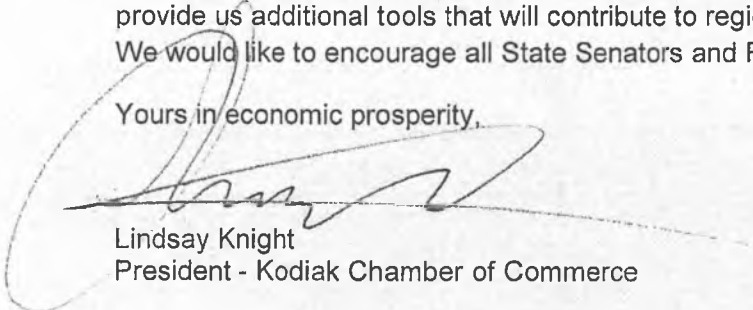
The Kodiak Chamber of Commerce supports S.B. 24 – a bill expanding the Marine Transportation Advisory Board (MTAB) from 11 seats to 12, providing the Southcentral Region with an additional seat.

The Kodiak Chamber of Commerce's membership includes over 350 individuals, businesses and organizations throughout the Kodiak region. The Chamber promotes the development of a strong and diverse economy for the region. The Alaska Marine Highway system is a vital link in our economy, transporting people, goods and vehicles to and from the mainland and many communities throughout the region.

Currently, representation for western Alaska on the MTAB is covered by a Prince William Sound/Kenai Peninsula seat and a Southwest Alaska seat for 18 communities from Cordova to Dutch Harbor. The Chamber of Commerce supports the creation of an additional seat on the MTAB that would represent the Southern Kenai and Kodiak areas. These regions consist of 6 communities including: Kodiak, Homer, Seldovia, Port Lions, Ouzinkie, and Old Harbor. By adding one additional representative for this area, the state would have a total of three representatives for the 18 Western communities currently served by AMHS. This greater level of representation on the MTAB is vital for a better understanding of regional needs, and matching those needs with the outstanding service provided by the M/V Tustumena and M/V Kennicott.

We believe that the additional representation, provided by in S.B. 24, is vital to MTAB's responsiveness to our region. Understanding our region, coupled with AMHS service will provide us additional tools that will contribute to regional economic growth and development. We would like to encourage all State Senators and Representatives to vote for S.B. 24.

Yours in economic prosperity,



Lindsay Knight  
President - Kodiak Chamber of Commerce

**Dedicated to Kodiak's Economic Future**

**Dana Owen**

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**From:** Doug Letch  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2013 12:10 PM  
**To:** Dana Owen  
**Subject:** FW: SB 24 support

**From:** [ian41270@gmail.com](mailto:ian41270@gmail.com) [<mailto:ian41270@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Seldovia Chamber  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2013 11:30 AM  
**To:** Doug Letch  
**Subject:** Re: SB 24

Hello Doug,

I wanted to let you know that the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce voted unanimously in support of SB24. This important measure would allow for better representation of communities who depend so heavily on the AMHS for their economic livelihood.

Sincerely,  
Ian McGaughey  
President, Seldovia Chamber of Commerce

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February 19, 2013

Senator Gary Stevens  
State of Alaska 28<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
State Capitol Room 429  
Juneau, Ak 99801

Dear Senator Stevens,

The Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center, representing over 500 businesses, individuals and organizations, would like to voice their support for S.B. 24 – a bill expanding the Marine Transportation Advisory Board from 11 to 12 seats and providing the Southcentral Region with an additional seat.

Our Chamber supports the creation of an additional set on the MTAB that would give representation to the Southern Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak areas. The ports and communities of Homer, Kodiak, Seldovia, Port Lions, Ouzinkie, and Old Harbor would all benefit and feel as though they have a voice on this very important board.

Understanding who we are, the ins and outs of our respective communities, and the importance of the Alaska Marine Highway to each of those communities is vital for us going forward. It will provide us with additional tools that will contribute to the economic growth and development of our entire region.

Respectfully,

Executive Director  
Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

## Dana Owen

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Sincerely,  
Ian McGaughey  
President, Seldovia Chamber of Commerce

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*Mission: To support our membership through cooperative economic development and community service.*

February 19, 2013

Senator Gary Stevens  
State of Alaska 28<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
State Capitol Room 429  
Juneau, Ak 99801

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark J." followed by a stylized flourish.

Executive Director  
Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center