

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



* HONORING *

* THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF * * ALASKA'S JONES ACT-LOCAL HIRE INITIATIVE *

The Twenty-fifth Alaska State Legislature is proud to honor the 10th Anniversary of Alaska's Jones Act-Local Hire Initiative.

The Seafarer's International Union and their respective Jones Act vessel operators, including Alaska Tanker Company, Crowley Marine, Horizon Lines, Tolem Ocean Trailer Express (TOTE), and Seabulk, Inc., recognized Alaska's inherent interest in assuring quality training and that jobs are available to its citizens.

This recognition has led to several outstanding initiatives and partnerships focused on providing numerous training grants, college scholarships, apprenticeships, and steady employment opportunities aboard Jones Act and U.S. flag vessels engaged in commercial activities throughout the waterways of Alaska, the coastal United States, and international trade lanes.

This dedicated focus on maritime employment and its success has led to the thoughtful generosity of a Ketchikan resident to endow a two million dollar scholarship fund for Ketchikan high school system graduates to seek and benefit from providing the wish to pursue an academic or vocational maritime course of study.

Alaskan displaced fishermen and veterans whose skills and work ethic are deeply valued by maritime employers have been able to seek an alternative career path and training in maritime through this decade-long initiative. Also, transitioning foster youth, disenfranchised individuals, and Alaskan natives throughout our state have been actively and successfully recruited, trained, and employed in the marine sector through this award-winning program.

The public/private/labor partnership that has evolved into the Ketchikan-based Seal, Inc., has among the highest placement and graduation rates of any Alaska Department of Labor training program in our state.

Nearly 400 Alaskans have been affiliated and benefited from one or more elements of this initiative and found family-wage employment as a result of these efforts.

The Twenty-fifth Alaska State Legislature commends all the participants in this successful initiative.




JOHN HARRIS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE


LYDA LOREN
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: February 22, 2007


KURT OLSON
PRIME SPONSOR

Cosponsors: Senators Wagener, Green, Bunde, Cowdry, Davis, Dyrus, Ellis, Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Kookesh, McGuire, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Therrault, Thomas, Wagener, Wieclowski, Wilkes; Representatives Harris, Chenuit, Cisma, Coghill, Crawford, Dahlerom, Doll, Doolgan, Fauchelough, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Johnson, Joulé, Kawinaka, Kelly, Kenttala, Kobring, LeDoux, Lynn, Meyer, Nelson, Neuman, Ramras, Roesch, Salmer, Samsick, Seaton, Stehler, Thomas, Wilson