



**KODIAK
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

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**KODIAK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
RESOLUTION 2013-01**

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO MAINTAIN THE TUSTUMENA FERRY AT THE TOP OF ALASKA'S VESSEL REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE, AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO BEGIN THE DESIGN PROCESS OF A REPLACEMENT VESSEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) provides vital goods and services and a reliable transportation link to the Kodiak Archipelago and Aleutian Chain; and

WHEREAS, the M/V Tustumena services four Kodiak area communities year-round and makes the journey to the Aleutian Chain 10 times per year; and

WHEREAS, the rough and exposed waters of the Gulf of Alaska and the Aleutians can accelerate the deterioration of any vessel servicing the region; and

WHEREAS, the M/V Tustumena was built in 1964 and is approaching its 50th year of service; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Transportation Advisory Board, created in 2003 as a local planning and advisory body for the AMHS, has recommended the Tustumena as the top vessel in the queue of the State's vessel replacement fund; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Legislature has appropriated \$50 million to the state's vessel replacement fund, but has not authorized spending from that fund toward another vessel; and

WHEREAS, design work on an ocean-class vessel that can navigate the waters of Southwest Alaska and accommodate its unique port requirements needs to begin as soon as possible to accelerate the Tustumena replacement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce supports maintaining the Tustumena Ferry at the top of Alaska's vessel replacement schedule, and urges the Department of Transportation to begin the design process of a replacement vessel as soon as possible.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors this 4th Day of March, 2013.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

ATTEST:

Greg Deal, President

Trevor Brown, Executive Director

Dedicated to Kodiak's Economic Future