

**A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE FY2007 UPDATE TO THE
SOUTHEAST ALASKA
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)**

(Resolution 07-01)

- WHEREAS** The purpose of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is to sustain a regional planning process by which jobs are created, more stable and diversified economies are fostered, and living conditions are improved; and,
- WHEREAS** The completed CEDS identifies our revised regional economic development strategies as well as local community development projects for all Southeast Alaska; and,
- WHEREAS** The production of the CEDS and annual update have been undertaken as a joint project of the Southeast Conference and the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska; and,
- WHEREAS** Through their membership in Southeast Conference and Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, a majority of the boroughs, communities, community associations, villages, tribes and tribal organizations in Southeast Alaska are represented; and,
- WHEREAS** Southeast Conference is the state's designated Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) and the federally-authorized USDA Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council for Southeast Alaska; and,
- WHEREAS** This CEDS complies with the regional planning requirements of the Alaska Regional Development Organizations program and the USDA Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) program; and,
- WHEREAS** It is a reporting requirement of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration that a CEDS annual report or a revised/updated CEDS be submitted yearly; and,
- WHEREAS** This CEDS has been prepared and updated to meet the requirements for designation as an Economic Development District and to qualify for assistance under the public works, economic adjustment, and planning programs of the U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference does hereby adopt this Southeast Alaska Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2007 update and agrees to support the goals and objectives outlined herein.

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 2007

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference does hereby authorize and support the submission of the Southeast Alaska Economic Development Strategy 2007 update to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration to remain in good standing as the Economic Development District for Southeast Alaska.

Adopted by Southeast Conference on July 20, 2007.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Venables". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Witness: Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Attest: Judy Kennedy, Administrative Assistant

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING A WORK PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007
AND
AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A STATE GRANT TO
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

(Resolution 07-02)

WHEREAS Southeast Conference is the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR), the USDA Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, and the Economic Development District (EDD) for Southeast Alaska, and

WHEREAS the Conference is responsible for preparing and maintaining a regional development strategy for capacity building, economic and community development, and resource conservation and development in Southeast Alaska, and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska provides ARDORs annual operating grants to partially fund performance of work plans that implement regional development strategies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approves the Southeast Conference integrated SEC/ARDOR/RC&D Work Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2007.

The Board authorizes acceptance of and assumes responsibility for an ARDOR grant of \$61,060 to partially fund execution of the FY-07 Work Plan.

The Board certifies the required non-state cash match has been committed as reported in the Conference's ARDOR Grant Application. The Board agrees to collect the required match and allocate it to performance of ARDOR tasks.

The Board authorizes President Robert Venables, and his successor, to negotiate, execute, and administer documents required for granting of funds to Southeast Conference and for managing funds on its behalf. He and his successor are further authorized to negotiate and execute amendments to grant documents when needed to adjust the Work Plan or Budget to better meet the development needs of the region at the time.

ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON July 20, 2006.



Witness: _____
Robert Venables - President Southeast Conference



Attest: _____
Murray Walsh – Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE FY2007

PO Box 21989 Juneau, AK 99802 (907) 463-3445

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCERE APPRECIATION
FOR THE SUPPORT OF BILL ALLEN AS STATE DIRECTOR
OF USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

(Resolution 07-03)

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for Southeast Conference as the most invigorated ARDOR in the state, and personally used the Conference as an example for how to be active on behalf of the region; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for Southeast Conference's semiannual regional meetings by financially sponsoring portions of those meetings through his agency, and by providing a presence at those meetings in person when he was able, or through members of his agency staff; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for the Southeast Alaska Regional Intertie, both in his professional capacity as State Director of Rural Development and through financial support from his agency; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for the Southeast Alaska Solid Waste Management grant by advocating for the project and securing grant funds, even after funding was initially denied by the national office; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for the Sawmill Cove Industrial Park in Sitka and its waterfront development needs; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for the City of Wrangell through helping secure funds for development of the Civic Center; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen provided strong and unwavering support for the Southeast Alaska timber industry by advocating for that industry in Washington, D.C., and by providing a financing guarantee for a timber industry project on Gravina Island; and

WHEREAS Mr. Allen strongly voiced the need for an economic base in rural Alaska communities to help them become more self sustaining, and championed that concept, which also gave birth to the Council on Economic Policy for Rural Alaska (CEPRA); and

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

WHEREAS Mr. Allen worked diligently to bring state and federal agencies and private foundations together to help communities and regions reach toward their goal of sustainability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Southeast Conference wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Bill Allen for his tireless efforts toward the improvement of quality of life for the peoples of Southeast Alaska and the state; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Southeast Conference Board of Directors hereby states its intention to designate Bill Allen a lifetime member of Southeast Conference

ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JULY 20, 2006, AND BY THE MEMBERSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 AT KETCHIKAN, ALASKA.

Witnessed by:

Attested by:



Robert Venables
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 2007

A Resolution Urging the State to Provide for a Statutory Maximum Employer Contribution Rate and Allow Employers the Option of Refinancing their PERS/TERS Debt

Resolution 07-04

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Alaska created TERS in 1955 and the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) in 1961 to provide a retirement system for participating municipal and educational employees: and

WHEREAS, many cities and boroughs have participated in PERS for many years; and

WHEREAS, the basic premise of a defined benefit pension plan is that employer and/or employee contributions are invested by the plan administrator in accord with sound actuarial principle so that adequate funds are available for retiree pensions and health care benefits; and

WHEREAS, the PERS system is seriously underfunded on a statewide basis; the plan's assets are roughly equal to only 70% of the projected plan expenses; and

WHEREAS, in response to the under funding, PERS administrators have indicated that the employer PERS contribution rate will increase by 5% compounded annually every year for many years; and

WHEREAS, this past March, the Senate Finance Committee of the Alaska Legislature found the following reasons for PERS under funding:

- * Inaccurate assumptions
- * Historical understatements of system liabilities
- * Rising health costs
- * 3-year "bear" market downturn
- * Declining interest rates
- * Unfavorable demographic changes
- * Timing of the recognition of market losses
- * Artificially low contribution rates in good times
- * Legislation that has increased benefits
- * Awarding of Post Pension Retirement Adjustments

WHEREAS, by passage of Senate Bill 141, the State has taken a significant step towards a long-term resolution of the statewide PERS shortfall; effective July 1, 2006, the existing defined benefit plan will become a defined contribution plan for employees hired on or after that date; under a defined contribution plan, the liability of the employers is limited to making contributions; and

WHEREAS, all municipalities and local taxpayers face eventual fiscal calamity as the employer rate increases by 5% of total salaries paid per year; and

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 2007

WHEREAS, establishing a maximum employer PERS rate will enable municipalities to afford to continue to provide essential public services; and

WHEREAS, the State government has vastly superior revenue resources compared to municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, statutory changes to allow municipalities and the state to refinance the existing debt could potentially save several percentage points of interest charges each years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Southeast Conference agrees to the following:

- To avoid penalizing local southeast Alaska taxpayers and students, the PERS statues should be amended to provide for a maximum employer contribution rate of 20%, with any amount above 20% to be paid by the State, as part of the changes to resolve the plan under funding;
- That the state allow employers the option of refinancing their existing PERS/TRS debt in order to use financing methods that are available at a rate lower than 8.25%
- Southeast Conference supports Governor Murkowski's proposal to pay the PERS//TERS increased contribution amount of \$505 million in FY08 and supports the additional \$500 million deposit into the retirement system to help pay down the state's unfunded liability.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP ON
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006, at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Attested by:



Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPLETION OF AND STATE FUNDING FOR THE SWAN-TYEE INTERTIE PROJECT

(Resolution 07-05)

WHEREAS, the Swan-Tyee Intertie will interconnect the Tyee lake hydroelectric project with the Swan lake hydroelectric project in Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, this 57-mile interconnection will complete the transmission link from Ketchikan to Petersburg, and

WHEREAS, the Tyee Lake hydro project has surplus energy available which will be transmitted to Ketchikan to meet their increasing loads including the Veneer Plant, Shipyard expansion, and Gravina Island development; and

WHEREAS, the Sway-Tyee Intertie has been designed, permitted, and installation of the tower foundations are approximately 50% complete; and

WHEREAS, completion of this intertie segment is necessary for the development and transmission of hydro power from southern Southeast Alaska to Canada and the lower 48 over the proposed ALCAN Intertie; and

WHEREAS, this project has been prioritized by the Energy Committee of Southeast Conference along with the Juneau to Hoonah and the Petersburg to Kake Intertie segments; and

WHEREAS, the Swan-Tyee Intertie will provide critical electrical transmission infrastructure which will allow the development and transmission of renewable hydro power to communities in Southeast Alaska thereby displacing costly diesel generation with its associated environmental impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Southeast Conference supports the completion of and State funding for the Swan-Tyee Intertie segment in Southeast Alaska.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP ON
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:

Attested by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT OF A HIGH VOLTAGE DIRECT CURRENT (HVDC) TRANSMISSION SYSTEM TO INTERCONNECT HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS AND COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA

Resolution 07-06

WHEREAS, Southeastern Alaska needs an economical means of bringing abundant hydroelectric power to isolated, remote communities such as Hoonah, Kake and Angoon; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Alaska has thousands of megawatts of potential hydropower that can be used both locally and exported for sale to the contiguous 48 states; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern hydroelectric power will be less expensive than comparable power generated by thermal plants, and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, fostering development of Southeastern's hydroelectric power resources will help to reduce national imports of foreign oil, reducing our nation's negative balance of payments and strengthening the national economy; and

WHEREAS, the development of hydroelectric power in Southeastern Alaska will provide local jobs during construction, operation, and income in perpetuity. AND, will help ameliorate the loss of jobs caused by timber harvest restrictions; and

WHEREAS, a HVDC transmission system using new technology has been proposed that will be less expensive and more energy efficient than alternatives, and will be technically superior to AC or other HVDC systems for overland and underwater cable interties, thereby making Southeastern renewable energy more available to the residents and to the United States as a whole.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Southeast Conference supports the analysis and development of this new HVDC technology and asks that the federal government and State of Alaska and their agencies support for this program.

ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.

Witnessed by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Attested by:



Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERCONNECTION FROM SOUTHEAST ALASKA INTO BRITISH COLUMBIA (ALASKA/BC INTERTIE) AND SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDROELECTRIC RESOURCES IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Resolution 07-07

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska has tremendous hydroelectric potential with many projects already developed and online supplying renewable hydro power to several Southeast Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS, although many of the region's major communities are served by hydroelectric facilities, there are several communities including Kake, Angoon, and Hoonah, that depend upon expensive diesel generation to meet their power requirements; and

WHEREAS, the lack of transmission infrastructure interconnecting Southeast Alaskan communities severely limits the ability of all communities to enjoy the benefits of renewable hydroelectric power; and

WHEREAS, because of the lack of transmission lines within the region, Southeast Alaska's untapped hydro potential cannot be developed; and

WHEREAS, the transmission system in British Columbia is considering expanding and could be moving closer to the Alaska/British Columbia border near the existing Tyee Lake hydro project south of Wrangell; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature appropriated \$3.2 million dollars to study and analyze the potential of interconnecting Southeast Alaska with British Columbia and the North American transmission grid; and

WHEREAS, this interconnection, known as the Alaska/BC Intertie, would allow the delivery of power that is surplus to the needs of Southeast Alaska to be exported into British Columbia and the North American grid; and

WHEREAS, if surplus power could be delivered over the Alaska/BC Intertie to markets in British Columbia and the "lower 48," major hydroelectric projects such as the Thomas Bay projects near Petersburg could be developed; and

WHEREAS, the development of hydro projects in Southeast Alaska would also necessitate the development of transmission infrastructure benefiting the region's communities; and

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the interconnection from Southeast Alaska into British Columbia should be designed at sufficient capacity to transmit 200 megawatts of power from Southeast Alaska to the North American grid.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southeast Conference supports the development of the Alaska/BC Intertie interconnecting Southeast Alaska with British Columbia with sufficient capacity to transmit 200 MW of power and also supports the development of the region's hydroelectric potential including the Thomas Bay projects near Petersburg.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP ON
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:

Attested by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

SUPPORT FOR INCLUSION OF AN ALTERNATIVE IN THE TONGASS LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT THAT PROVIDES AN ADEQUATE TIMBER SUPPLY FOR RESTORATION OF AN INTEGRATED INDUSTRY IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Resolution 07-08

WHEREAS, the timber industry provides high paying, year around employment, which is necessity for the economic future of Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the communities in Southeast Alaska wish to restore a viable, sustainable, timber industry as a part of their economy; and

WHEREAS, an industry that can profitably process all the different kinds of logs that grow in Southeast must be integrated to include sawmills, veneer mills, and mills that can process low grad logs and residual chips; and

WHEREAS, the timber industry is currently operating at a level that is too low to sustain the infrastructure necessary to support an integrated manufacturing industry; and

WHEREAS, the Tongass national Forest is the primary source of the wood supply to the industry; and

WHEREAS, recent independent studies have determined that a minimum operating level of 360 million board feet of economically harvestable timber annually, distributed across the Tongass National Forest is necessary to support an integrated mix of processing facilities; and

WHEREAS, the current Tongass Land Management Plan does not allow for an adequate nor reliable supply of economic timber to sustain the industry; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Service is currently in the process of amending the Tongass Plan and various elements of the amended Plan must be changed to assure that an adequate supply of economic timber is available; and

WHEREAS, in order to assure that an adequate supply of economic timber, averaging 260 million board feet of timber annually, may be offered by the Forest Service and to assure that the offered timber is economic, an annual allowable sale quantity of 420 million board feet is needed to select from; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement amending the Forest Plan is scheduled to be released in November 2006, it must present an alternative that includes all necessary changes to the Plan as needed to restore the timber industry; and

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, in order for those necessary changes to be considered in the final Plan next year, they must be presented and fully analyzed in the forthcoming Draft Environmental Impact Statement; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Conference has recommended that the Forest Service include the Preferred Alternative from its 1992 unpublished Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Tongass Plan Revision in the current Plan Amendment process as a way to address the supply needs of the timber industry.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RE SOLVED, Southeast Conference supports the efforts to restore an integrated timber industry in southeast Alaska with an average operating level of 360 million board feet of economic timber annually from the Tongass National Forest and requests that the Forest Service include an alternative in its Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Plan Amendment that assures the availability of that timber supply.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:

Attested by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE HYDER BOARD OF TRADE INC. EFFORTS TO SECURE STATE, FEDERAL, AND OTHER PROJECT ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE AND VISITOR FACILITIES AS PART OF THE PORTLAND CANAL/MISTY FJORDS EASTERN GATEWAY

Resolution 07-09

WHEREAS, the modern Cassiar Highway³⁷ of today is rapidly changing the travel patterns of Alaska bound independent visitor traffic away from long established Southeast Alaska marine traffic patterns visitors have traditionally followed into Alaska's massive region of the Tongass National Forest; and

WHEREAS, the decline of independent visitor traffic in Southeast Alaska is primarily linked to the business and service sectors associated with RV travel, independent motor coach tours, locally based eco-tours, campgrounds, motels, hotels, and the passenger/vehicle traffic volume levels of the Alaska Marine Highway System; and

WHEREAS, the small U.S./Canada boundary community of Hyder, Alaska is surrounded and strategically positioned at the headwaters of the ninety mile long Portland Canal, in a manner whereby recovery from the current loss of traffic to the Cassiar Highway by development of marine facilities and visitor services at Hyder; and

WHEREAS, development of marine facilities at Hyder will connect the population center at Ketchikan and Hyder, offering visitors an unequalled experience of cruising a narrow, uninhabited wilderness fjord, carved between high mountain peaks and glaciers, while following the international boundary between Canada, the United States, the Misty Fjord National Monument and Wilderness Preserve, and Northwest British Columbia wilderness for eco-cruise tours, kayaks, private boaters, and public and private ferries; and

WHEREAS, the proposed facilities will attract creative initiatives, both public and private, in addressing a new visitor opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the facilities would be operated and maintained by the not-for-profit Hyder Board of Trade Inc. in a manner of being in concert with traffic flows between the Cassiar Highway 37, Ketchikan, Prince Rupert, and the balance of Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the best estimates of the potential additional yearly traffic volumes via the currently non-accessible federal public lands and waters is in the order of 20,000 new visitors to Southeast Alaska, the Tongass National Forest and Alaska's Misty Fjords and Wilderness Areas to be marketed as Southeast Alaska's "Glacier and Fjord Route."

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Southeast Conference supports the Hyder Board of Trade efforts to secure shared state and federal funding leading to the entry of new visitors to the region for a new non-impacting experience of the Tongass National Forest lands, waters and glaciers as well as all agencies necessary.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Southeast Conference urges the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to maximize all opportunities for cooperation with the Hyder Board of Trade, Inc., the United States Forest Service, the District of Stewart, BC and the private sector.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP ON
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:

Attested by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

**A RESOLUTION RE-AFFIRMING OPPOSITION TO ANY EFFORT TO MOVE
THE LEGISLATURE**

Resolution 07-10

WHEREAS, Alaskan voters have repeatedly rejected initiatives to move the legislative capital; and

WHEREAS, a legislative capital move would affect every resident of Southeast Alaska by reducing airlines and ferry service, increasing passenger fares and freight rates, and hurting regional businesses, non-profit organizations, tourism, and seafood industries; and

WHEREAS, a legislative capital move would exacerbate Southeast Alaska's decline in political influence in the legislature; and

WHEREAS, a legislative capital move would divert significant state resources away from vital services such as schools, roads, ferries, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, a legislative capital move would divert attention away from critical fiscal, economic, and social problems that Alaskans should be working cooperatively to solve and is not a good use of Alaskan's time, money, and energy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southeast Conference reaffirms its opposition to any effort to move the legislature.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Attested by:



Murray Walsh
Executive Director

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KETCHIKAN SHIPYARD AS AN ENDURING ENTERPRISE ANCHORING THE RE-INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THE REGIONAL MARITIME INDUSTRY COMPLEX

Resolution 07-11

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Shipyard is a state owned facility supporting AMHS ferries and other commercial and publicly owned vessels; and

WHEREAS, the current private sector shipyard operator has secured a thirty year commercial operating agreement with the state providing long needed institutional stability for enduring operation of the Ketchikan Shipyard; and

WHEREAS, the public ownership and commercial operating agreement constitute a Public Private Partnership (PPP) established to assure the Ketchikan Shipyard transitions to an enduring enterprise; and

WHEREAS, goals of the PPP supporting the Ketchikan Shipyard are to:

- establish the Ketchikan Shipyard as a viable enterprise capable of operating over the long term; and
- reduce the cost of operating public and commercial marine vessels in Alaska, the North Pacific, and Arctic Oceans; and
- attract marine vessels currently home porting outside the region to new homeports within the region; and
- attract private investment in new businesses supporting the regions maritime industry complex; and
- provide year round, family wage employment in the region; and

WHEREAS, pending federal legislation titled the Maritime Administration Enhancement Act of 2005 contains a section titled Assistance for Small Shipyards and Maritime Communities that provide assistance to state and local governments to provide grants and loan guarantees to small shipyards (under 600 employees) for:

- capital improvements (not land or buildings) for advanced manufacturing tooling; and
- to encourage, assist in, or provide training for residents of maritime communities that will enhance the economic viability of those communities.

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Southeast Conference resolves to support efforts by industry and local and state government to establish the Ketchikan Shipyard as an enduring enterprise employing advanced manufacturing to provide stable, year round family wage employment and attract new private investment in the region.

**ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 at Ketchikan, Alaska.**

Witnessed by:

Attested by:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN
CHANGES PROPOSED TO THE
LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION REGULATIONS**

(Resolution 07-12)

WHEREAS, The Local Boundary Commission (LBC) has proposed changes for its regulations; and,

WHEREAS, Several communities in Southeast Alaska are considering borough formation and others have done so in recent years; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Constitution encourages the formation of local governments; and,

WHEREAS, Many actions of the Alaska Legislature and administrative departments over the years also encourage formation of local governments; and,

WHEREAS, The current process seems to discourage formation of local borough governments requiring excessive time and funds to successfully and legally argue compatible social and economic conditions unless arbitrary and needless conditions are met; and,

WHEREAS, Several of the proposed changes in the LBC regulations would actually worsen the situation by tightening restrictions, decreasing incentives and thus retarding the eventual formation of local governments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE THAT:

1. The proposed new regulations appropriately remove the presumption that absent a specific and persuasive showing to the contrary borough boundaries must conform to model borough boundaries (3AAC 110.060(b)).
2. The proposed regulations should also go further and remove the reference to model borough boundaries in 3AAC110.060(c)), which still seems to make the Model Borough Boundaries as a starting point of analysis.
3. The two-community requirement in proposed regulation 3AAC 110.045(b)) should be removed.
4. The Commission's decisional meetings must not be held in executive Session as proposed in 3AAC 110.570.
5. The change proposed in 3AAC110.550, would require that any questions that the commissioners have during an LBC tour of the area or region where an annexation or

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borough formation is pending must be answered only by LBC staff. All questions should be fairly provided to proponents and opponents to be answered at minimum in writing following the tour. LBC staff should not be given any special privilege or status on such tours as their local knowledge may not be sufficient.

6. The staff [department] should not be allowed to cross examine or call witnesses as shown in changes to 3AA 110.560. This puts the department in an advocacy position and should be the responsibility of the commissioners.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference Board of Directors on March 7, 2007.

In Juneau, Alaska.

Witnessed by:

Attested by:

Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE REGISTERED AGENT
FOR SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
(Resolution 07-13)**

WHEREAS Southeast Conference is a non-profit corporation in the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS The Corporation has hired a new Executive Director effective July 17, 2006; and

WHEREAS In order to update the State of Alaska and Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Corporations Section;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors of Southeast Conference at their regular monthly meeting on March 16, 2007 appointed Murray R. Walsh, Executive Director, as the new Registered Agent for said corporation at the location address of 612 W. Willoughby Ave., Juneau, Alaska 99801.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference Board of Directors on March 16, 2007.

Witnessed by:

Attested by:

Carol Rushmore
President

Linda J. Snow
Secretary/Treasurer

Southeast Conference 2007

A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS OBJECTION THE PROPOSAL IN THE WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT A BILL THAT WOULD IMPOSE A FEE ON THE PROCESSING OF SHIPPING CONTAINERS IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON BECAUSE OF THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF SUCH A FEE ON THE PEOPLE AND ECONOMY OF THE STATE OF ALASKA AND THE SOUTHEAST REGION

(Resolution 07-14)

WHEREAS, Washington State has been the primary gateway to Alaska since before the first gold rush, more than 100 years ago; and,

WHEREAS, the people of Alaska continue to depend on ships and barges to move almost all of the necessities of daily life from Washington State; and,

WHEREAS, many isolated maritime communities that do not have road access depend entirely on marine cargo shipped from Washington state as their lifelines; and,

WHEREAS, 97 percent by weight and 60 percent of the value of all goods shipped to Alaska are shipped by water; and,

WHEREAS, most seafood harvested in this state and bound for the lower 48 states is shipped from this state to and through ports in Washington State; and,

WHEREAS, during 2003, the economic connection between Alaska and Washington State was responsible for at least 103,500 jobs and over \$4,000,000,000 in labor earnings; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 5207, which is pending before the Washington State Legislature, would impose a fee of \$50 for each 20-foot equivalent unit on every cargo container traveling between Washington state and this state; most cargo containers are at least two 20-foot equivalent units and would be subject to a fee of \$100 each time the container leaves Washington state and each time the container returns to that state, regardless of whether the container is empty, partially loaded, or full; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 5207 would be detrimental to the trading relationship between Washington State and Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, because of Alaska's unique dependence on ports in Washington State, enactment of Senate Bill 5207 would damage this state's economy and cripple many isolated communities in this state by raising the cost of living by several percent; and,

WHEREAS Southeast Conference recognizes that freight congestion in Washington ports is a serious problem; and,

WHEREAS congestion in Washington ports can negatively impact the transport of

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Alaska goods; and,

WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature recognizes that the efficient and economic transport of freight along the west coast is a regional issue that takes a regional solution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE THAT:

1. Southeast Conference respectfully requests that the Washington State Legislature recognize the negative effect Senate Bill 5207 would have on the trading relationship between Washington state and this state and the economic costs associated with that negative effect to both states;
2. Southeast Conference respectfully requests that the Washington State Legislature recognize the negative effect Senate Bill 5207 would have on the people and economy of Alaska and particularly on maritime communities in the southeast part of this state;
3. Southeast Conference opposes the enactment of Senate Bill 5207 and urges the Washington State Legislature to consider alternative means for raising revenue to be used for the infrastructure of the ports of that state;
4. Southeast Conference urges recognition of the plans of the of the City of Prince Rupert, B.C. to establish a new container facility that will expand the regional freight infrastructure and thus ease the burden on Washington State thus constitute a part of a regional solution;

Adopted by the Southeast Conference Board of Directors on March 30, 2007.
In Juneau, Alaska.

Witnessed by:

Attested by:

Carol Rushmore
President

Murray Walsh
Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR PALIN
TO HELP EFFECT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE KENSINGTON GOLD MINE
LITIGATION**

(Resolution 07-15) (Amended)

WHEREAS The Kensington Gold Mine, operated by Coeur Alaska, has been fully permitted by all of the appropriate Federal, State and Municipal agencies; and;

WHEREAS The Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, Sierra Club and Lynn Canal Conservation Society have brought litigation against the Army Corps of Engineers and the United States Forest Service due to concerns regarding the Slate Lake Tailings Management Option; and;

WHEREAS The Slate Lake Tailings Management Option has been reviewed and approved by the Alaska District Court and the permitting agencies as the environmentally preferred alternative; and;

WHEREAS The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has announced it intends to vacate the permits for the Kensington Gold Mine without allowing the Alaska District Court to finish its findings of fact in the case; and;

WHEREAS The Kensington Gold Mine has an annual construction payroll of 20 million dollars and currently employs more than 400 people, many of them Juneau and Southeast Alaska residents; and;

WHEREAS Coeur Alaska has demonstrated its commitment to local hire and the Kensington will employ approximately 225 people each year during ten or more years of operation, with an annual payroll of 16 million dollars; and;

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WHEREAS The Kensington Gold Mine, with its projected employment, taxes, payroll, and purchases of goods and services in the region is vitally important to the future stability of the economy of the Southeast Alaska Region; and;

WHEREAS Coeur Alaska and the parties bringing the litigation are all acting in good faith and have previously tried to mediate a mutually acceptable settlement; and;

WHEREAS Alaska's problems are best solved by Alaskans through an out-of-court settlement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeast Conference Board of Directors strongly encourages Governor Palin to use her Good Offices to initiate immediate discussions between Coeur Alaska, Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, Sierra Club and Lynn Canal Conservation Society to negotiate a reasonable and feasible environmental solution to allow the Kensington Gold Mine to go forward with its development and operation.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference Board of Directors on March 30, 2007 in Juneau, Alaska at the Mid-Session Summit.

Witnessed by:

Attest:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray R. Walsh, AICP
Executive Director

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE
RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND**

Resolution 07-16

WHEREAS, a reliable and affordable supply of energy resources is fundamental to Alaska's economic development and quality of life;

WHEREAS, Alaska holds an abundance of renewable energy resources such as wind, hydro, geothermal, biomass, tidal, and solar;

WHEREAS, with a wealth of renewable energy resources, Alaska has the opportunity to develop new industries, create jobs and provide affordable energy to communities;

WHEREAS, the cost of providing energy through the use of fossil fuels continues to escalate and stifle economic opportunities in many Alaska communities;

WHEREAS, there is little or no fuel costs associated with renewable energy generation;

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature established the Alaska Energy Policy Task Force to develop a long-term strategy for addressing Alaska's energy needs. The Task Force recommended new investments in renewable energy sources.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Southeast Conference supports the establishment and funding of a state renewable energy fund.

ADOPTED BY THE

Witnessed by:

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUPPLEMENTAL REGIONAL CONTRACT SERVICE BY THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY TO AUGMENT SERVICE TO, AND RE-ESTABLISH DIRECT CONNECTIVITY AMONG, THE NORTHERN PANHANDLE COMMUNITIES OF JUNEAU, SITKA, HOONAH, ANGOON, KAKE, AND TENAKEE SPRINGS

Resolution 07-17

WHEREAS, with Alaska Marine Highway's deployment of *LeConte* as a dayboat only and termination of all service by that vessel to Sitka in June, 2006, most of the region's round-trip service between Angoon, Hoonah, Kake, Tenakee, and Sitka has been lost, along with multiple weekly Sitka connections to Juneau; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska's largest healthcare provider, Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium and Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital, is based in Sitka and as Sitka's largest employer is a cornerstone of Sitka's economy and is realizing serious economic harm by not being able to transport its patients, some of whom are elderly, frail, or disabled, on the Marine Highway from Hoonah, Kake, Angoon and Juneau to Sitka and back home for their health and hospital care in a direct realistic time frame; and

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years residents of Juneau, Sitka, Hoonah, Angoon, Kake, and Tenakee have used *LeConte* to commute to and from Sitka to connect with relatives, business and professional services, potlatches and other Native educational and historical purposes, school sports and other school-related activities, and other purposes; and these cultural, economic and social ties are being severed by lack of ferry service; and

WHEREAS, 8,800 Sitka residents receive far less ferry service than other mainline ports, and the loss of the *LeConte* has removed three more Sitka stops and put even more pressure on the limited mainline service, further reducing Sitka's ability to use the Marine Highway System, and supplemental service is urgently needed; and

WHEREAS, a cost-effective, efficient, supplemental passenger-only service contract was considered by the Alaska Marine Highway System that would restore lost regional connections and substantially increase service to all six communities and

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WHEREAS, a passenger-only service would provide the social and medical connectivity needed among Sitka and the outlying communities that have cultural ties to both Sitka and other places but would not meet the freight and vehicular needs of the outlying communities; and

WHEREAS, freight and vehicular service, as presently provided by *LeConte*, is crucial to the well-being of the outlying communities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southeast Conference supports the implementation of a contract by the Alaska Marine Highway System to provide service similar to the Passenger-Only Service Schedule Summary shown below for a contract vessel operating six days per week to and from Sitka, Juneau, Hoonah, Angoon, Kake, and Tenakee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this supplemental service should be an addition to existing vehicle and freight ferry service to these six communities, and potentially others such as Pelican and Gustavus, and must not result in any reductions of current ferry services.

Adopted by the Southeast Conference Board of Directors on May 17, 2007 in Juneau, Alaska.

Witnessed by:

Attest:



Carol Rushmore
President

Murray R. Walsh, AICP
Executive Director

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Passenger Only Service Schedule Summary

Vessel	Monday Ports				
Sitka	Juneau	Hoonah	Angoon	Sitka	***

Vessel	Tuesday Ports				
Sitka	Sitka	Kake	Angoon	Sitka	***

Vessel	Wednesday Ports				
Sitka	***	***	***	***	***

Vessel	Thursday Ports				
Sitka	Sitka	Angoon	Hoonah	Juneau	***

Vessel	Friday Ports				
Sitka	Juneau	Hoonah	Tenakee	Angoon	Sitka

Vessel	Saturday Ports				
Sitka	Sitka	Kake	Angoon	Sitka	***

Vessel	Sunday Ports				
Sitka	Sitka	Angoon	Tenakee	Hoonah	Juneau