

THE GREATER SITKA
Chamber
OF COMMERCE

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION 2012-07

IN SUPPORT OF A "NO" VOTE ON BALLOT MEASURE 2

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce has a responsibility to its members; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce's mission is to promote, support, and facilitate commerce and economic growth in the community; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce supports an Alaska Coastal Zone Management Plan that includes local communities having a seat at the table; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce is against adding another layer of government that increases the regulatory burden on business working around, instead of with, our elected officials; and

WHEREAS, if Ballot Measure 2 is passed as written, it could cause serious economic harm to Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the positive economic impact of development in our local community is important for sustainability; and

WHEREAS, a truly effective coastal management program needs clear and reasonable triggers for applicability, specific timelines, and firm deadlines for completion of the review process; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 delegates authority to a handful of unelected Alaskans to create a coastal management program with few standards to guide the development of the program; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 contains no requirements for a timely permitting process nor a prohibition on duplicative processes, which could cause permit delays; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 allows each coastal district the power to overlay State statutes relating to air, water, and land with more stringent standards than those required by the State of Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 allows a district to veto a permit based on additional standards that may have no scientific basis-even if a landowner or project developer meets all State and Federal requirements; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 defines "coastal use or resource" to mean ANY land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone including public access, recreation, development, scenic and aesthetic enjoyment, etc...; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 allows any local district to regulate any activity if the district determines it has a direct and significant impact on a coastal use or resource, dramatically extending the program miles in-land from coastal areas; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 will create unnecessary barriers to development and harm job creation and economic growth; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Chamber supports a "No" Vote on Ballot Measure 2; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce requests Sitka voters to Vote "No" on Ballot Measure 2; and

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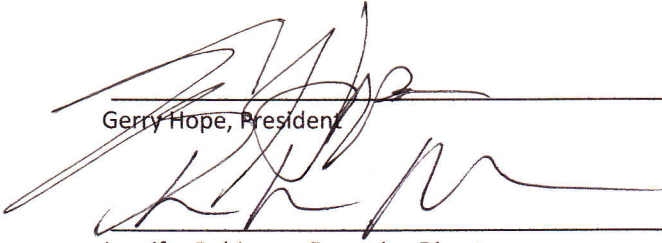
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce calls on the Alaska State Legislature to establish a coastal management plan during the 2013 Legislative Session.


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the officers and agents of the Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce be and are hereby authorized to take all action necessary to effect the foregoing resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Sitka Chamber of Commerce in accordance with its organic documents at a Meeting of the Sitka Chamber of Commerce held on August 17, 2012 and said resolution appears in the record of said Meeting as set forth above. Dated this 20th day of August, 2012.



Gerry Hope, President



Jennifer Robinson, Executive Director