
From: **Catherine McDermott**
Date: Wed, Feb 25, 2009 at 8:49 PM
Subject: Tourism Marketing
To: [Representative Mike Hawker@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Mike_Hawker@legis.state.ak.us), [Senator Con Bunde@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Con_Bunde@legis.state.ak.us)

Dear Representative Hawker and Senator Bunde,

I am writing to ask for your continued support in funding Alaska's tourism marketing program. This renewed commitment in destination marketing for Alaska enables the industry to grow, and, in turn, allow travel and tourism to promote yet more financial benefits to the state economy and directly to the general fund.

My family depends on tourism for our livelihood. My husband, a contractor, has worked steadily for the last 10 years building lodges and other buildings for tourism businesses. He has employed dozens of carpenters, laborers, and other tradesmen as a direct result of tourism. While we are not directly involved in tourism operations, it's tourism dollars that pay for our livelihood. It's an industry that is woven into the Alaskan economy, and supports many more than those directly employed in a tourism business.

The most important thing you can do to help us is to support the continued re-investment of \$9 million of the Vehicle Rental Taxes in Alaska's Tourism Marketing Program and to work toward sustainable, long-term growth in marketing funding through a Cruiseline Corporate Income Tax credit.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact me if I can provide any more information.

Respectfully, Catherine and Kevin McDermott (Girdwood)