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Alaska Travel Industry Association Board of Directors

Resolution #15-2

A RESOLUTION SEEKING CLASS I MEMBERSHIP on the PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill of 1989 had a devastating effect on the ecosystem of Prince William Sound and impacted many of lands, waters and wildlife important to Alaska's tourism businesses and communities, and

WHEREAS, another oil spill in the region would likely significantly impact the ability of communities and businesses to successfully promote their tourism product and destination, and

WHEREAS, Alaska's tourism industry and businesses support economic development in their region and communities through jobs and revenue to local governments, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Travel Industry Association represents almost 70 tourism businesses and partners, mostly organizations with 20 or less employees, who operate in the Prince William Sound and Kodiak Island areas, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Travel Industry Association is the leading statewide membership trade association for Alaska's tourism industry and has a long history of over thirty years supporting the health, growth and sustainability of Alaska's tourism industry, and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council was established under an Oil Pollution Act of 1990 mandated to represent Exxon Valdez Oil Spill affected communities, and

WHEREAS, oil spills of any kind into marine waters can cause severe damage to the environment and create social and economic distress for the residents, businesses and communities who rely on these resources, and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council works and oversees critical prevention and response issues such as tankers escort tugs, downstream planning, Geographic Response Strategies, and SERVS Open Water and Near shore response designed to protect public resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Alaska Travel Industry Association requests to become a Class I member of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizen's Advisory Council;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Alaska Travel Industry Association is offered Class I membership that the ATIA Board of Directors would seek a member representative that is knowledgeable and has operated in the region impacted by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill to serve in the recreation seat on the Prince William Sound Regional Citizen's Advisory Council.

Signed this 2nd day of December, 2014.

Sarah Leonard
President & CEO

Scott Habberstad, Alaska Airlines
ATIA Board Chair