

**Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
2008 Position**

Implementation of the Cruise Ship Ballot Measure

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce urges the State Legislature and Administration to develop and enact appropriate amendments to some of the provisions included in the adopted cruise-ship ballot measure and to develop appropriate and reasonable regulations for implementing the law.

These amendments and regulations should include:

- Issuance of a general permit for wastewater discharges that recognizes the high quality of the discharges from Advanced Wastewater Treatment Systems installed by cruise ships;
- Amending the \$46 head tax. Apply any local taxes collected as a credit against the \$46; and repeal of the constitutionally suspect Regional Impact Fund;
- Amending the provision requiring full time state employees on all cruise ships while ships are in Alaska waters to allow the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation the flexibility to position the employees only when ADEC considers it necessary or advisable;
- Repealing of the provision encouraging citizen lawsuits; and
- Assuring that any taxes are administered in compliance with federal law and international treaties, and minimizing any negative impacts to the Alaskan economy.