

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce 2010 Position

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Alaska

The Alaska State Chamber strongly supports the collaborative development of the LEGACY plan and the “Alaska Forward” Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy initiative for Alaska.

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce calls upon the Parnell Administration to continue its efforts under the LEGACY concept, which is mobilizing state agencies to collaborate with the business community in developing favorable changes to the State’s regulatory processes.

The Alaska State Chamber also supports the *Alaska Forward* initiative, which is designed to take a longer-term perspective on the state’s economic development needs and will result in an implementable economic development strategy (Strategy).

The Strategy will focus resources on deliberate and effective programs and projects that promote resource development, a healthy statewide business climate and create a national and global competitive advantage for Alaska. The Strategic Economic Development Plan will provide the strategic framework for Alaska’s business and elected leaders, to collaborate, to build a stronger, more competitive state economy. The Strategy should encompass four critical components:

- A broader view for the State economy that goes beyond simple issues of infrastructure and supports a vision for a sustainable, broad-based economy
- A long-range strategy that fills the need for a trained and available workforce for existing and new companies to meet their competitive needs
- A collaborative approach that aligns essential public and private sector organizations behind the compelling vision of Alaska’s economic future
- Recognition that government fiscal, taxation and regulatory regimes must be balanced in support of economic growth while protecting the interests of the citizens of Alaska