



Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

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Hayes' State Travel Procurement Bill Becomes Law

Moving Alaska Forward 2002

JUNEAU – In a move that opens a new market for Alaska small business owners, the State Senate joined the House this week in passing House Bill 300, an act relating to the procurement of certain travel services. The bill, sponsored by Representative Joe Hayes (D-Fairbanks), allows travel agencies to enter open bidding on state travel purchases. In short, HB 300 will give all Alaskan travel agencies the opportunity to provide state travel.

"I'm glad for the 50 or more businesses that won't be closing up shop because of this legislation," said Rep. Hayes.

HB 300 will exempt certain travel services from the procurement procedures, allowing for the consideration of all state travel agencies, including those that charge fees.

"The existence of competition among travel agents is important to ensure the state will get the best price available," Rep. Hayes added. If several travel agencies were to go out of business, the state will be forced to pay whatever price is set by the remaining agencies.

HB 300 passed the Senate unanimously. The bill heads next to the Governor for signature.

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