

MARITIME LABOR ALLIANCE



Via Facsimile & Certified USPS

July 29, 2019

The Honorable Michael J. Dunleavy, Governor
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001
Fax: (907) 761-5908

Subject: Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific – Alaska Marine Highway System

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

We, the undersigned organizations representing over 120,000 maritime workers in Alaska and across the country, are dismayed by the State of Alaska's treatment of Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific (IBU) ferry workers.

The Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) provides a vital service to the people living in the coastal communities of Alaska. The economic and social connectivity of coastal Alaska depend on the skills of a highly trained marine workforce. As key personnel in maintaining the critical and first-class maritime infrastructure of Alaska, IBU members have earned the right to a fair contract.

IBU workers should be treated fairly and with respect. Instead, they have been consistently obstructed in their efforts to negotiate a fair collective bargaining agreement. They have been cast as villains when, in fact, they have been bargaining for three years and have made every reasonable effort to meet the State halfway. Now they are being intimidated and threatened with sanctions for exerting their legal right to strike.

The economic well-being of coastal Alaska is being jeopardized by a crisis that has been manufactured for political purposes. The citizens and the State of Alaska deserve better.

We urge you to direct your administration to negotiate in good faith with IBU workers. We the undersigned pledge to work in concert to support the efforts of the IBU. A fair and reasonable contract for ferry workers will keep Alaska moving.

Sincerely,

Kelly Anderson, President
ARA

Marina V. Secchitano, President
IBU

Harold Daggett, President
ILA

Willie Adams, President
ILWU

Marshall Ainley, President
MEBA

Don Marcus, President
MM&P

The Maritime Labor Alliance consists of six leading maritime labor unions: American Radio Association (ARA), Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific (IBU), International Longshoremen's Association (ILA), International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association and International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots (MM&P). Together, we represent 120,000 maritime workers employed in every sector of the industry. Members of MLA unions have served the country on the docks and at sea in peace and war from 1875 to today.