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March 12, 2012

MTAB Legislative Priorities for 2012 Session

We Strongly Recommend Funding for FY 2013:

Funding for AMHS operations at current levels of service

- ✓ Public expects and appreciates a consistent schedule
- ✓ Due to maintenance schedules, replacement ships cost more to operate
- ✓ Customer satisfaction approval rating for current service level is high

Alaska Class Ferry Construction

- ✓ Next generation ferry to start replacement of aging AMHS fleet
- ✓ CM/GC Process to be used for efficiency
- ✓ Following legislative intent to build in Alaska

Columbia Repower Project (federal receipts)

- ✓ Unexpected engine casualty in May 2011 caused 4 day service outage
- ✓ Ship is due for mid-life re-powering
- ✓ Catastrophic casualty of an engine would cancel entire operating season

Engine Replacements for the Fast Vehicle Ferry (federal receipts)

- ✓ Fairweather engines have reached maximum cylinder bore oversize limit
- ✓ No proven permanent solution to problem exists
- ✓ Potential for year+ service gap due to long lead time engine production

Annual Appropriations to the Vessel Replacement Fund of at least \$60 Million

- ✓ Systematic annual investment needed to replace aging fleet
- ✓ Current commitment to AK Class Ferry means zero balance in fund
- ✓ Retaining fund's interest earnings could protect against inflation

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