



Greater Juneau Chamber of Commerce

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Because of an existing law, “The Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886,” the ban from Canadian ports means until July 1 there can be no cruise visitation to Alaska. The loss of these weeks of the season will devastate Southeast Alaska ports, and reduce the number of visitors to all other regions of the State. The economic impacts to our communities – and to the hundreds of small businesses and their thousands of employees who rely on cruise ship visitors for their economic livelihoods – will be decimating.

We are asking for your support and leadership to have the Federal Government implement a waiver to The Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886, allowing foreign hull cruise ships that carry more than 500 passengers and crew, to operate until July 1, 2020, or until the Canadian ban is lifted, providing for an emergency exemption from the foreign port requirement as required by this law. This temporary and targeted waiver would do the most for Alaskan businesses and the State. This single action would be the highest priority federal assistance for tourism businesses and mitigate job and revenue loss.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig E. Dahl".

Craig E. Dahl, Executive Director
The Board of Directors
Greater Juneau Chamber of Commerce

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