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**PRESS RELEASE  
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## **Fairbanks Chamber Board adopts state fiscal advocacy position**

**FAIRBANKS, AK** – The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a fiscal advocacy position to support a comprehensive, long-term sustainable fiscal plan for the State of Alaska at their meeting on August 24, 2015.

According to the position, the Chamber encourages the Alaska State Legislature, the Administration and state leaders to ensure the effective use of state resources by delivering essential programs as efficiently as possible and to make strategic investments that promote long-term economic growth. Further, the Chamber encourages government leaders to build a fiscally responsible budget that aligns revenues with expenses.

“As the premier advocacy organization for business in the Interior, the Board believes it is important that the Chamber have a strong voice in the ‘Building a Sustainable Future’ dialogue currently taking place in the Administration and throughout the state,” said Jennifer Imus, Chairwoman of Fairbanks Chamber’s Board of Directors. “Chamber staff, members and community leaders participated in Governor Walker’s June ‘Conversations with Alaskans’ conference. Since then, the Chamber has hosted a series of meetings intended to educate our membership and the community on the state’s fiscal situation.”

The fiscal position was created as a framework to guide the Chamber’s advocacy agenda for the upcoming legislative session and/or potential special sessions this fall. The Chamber’s position calls for state leaders to undergo a thorough review of all state-funded programs and services and to consider other revenue sources, such as the use of permanent fund earnings.

The Chamber is committed to providing their members with information about the state’s fiscal choices. Gunnar Knapp, the director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research presented a program on ‘Alaska’s Fiscal Facts and Choices’ at the general membership luncheon on August 4 and this afternoon business and community leaders heard from Pat Pitney, state budget director for the Office of Management and Budget, a presentation titled, ‘Sustainable Future Dialogue.’

The Chamber will advocate for a fiscal plan that is sustainable and promotes business development and job growth in Alaska.

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**About the Chamber:** The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents our members by advocating for a healthy economic environment and by building partnerships that promote the greater Fairbanks area as an attractive place for business and community. [www.fairbankschamber.org](http://www.fairbankschamber.org).

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