RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-05 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ALASKA MARICULTURE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, Alaska is a state with more coastline than the rest of the United States combined, the direct and indirect impacts of the growing mariculture industry and the maritime sector are significant for Alaska's workforce and economy; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walker established a mariculture task force in 2016 that developed the Alaska Mariculture Development Plan with a goal to grow a \$100 million mariculture industry for the long-term benefit of Alaska's economy, environment and communities;

WHEREAS, the 2014 Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan, endorsed by Alaska Workforce Investment Board on May 14, 2014 and the 2020-2025 Alaska Maritime Education Consortium Action Agenda, endorsed by AWIB on October 29, 2020, created a call to action for industry, educators, and state government to work together to keep this economic sector vibrant; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Mariculture Cluster, led by the Southeast Conference and developed by the US Department of Economic Development Adminstrations' Build Back Better Regional Challenge Grant is committed to the development of a robust workforce to meet the needs of a growing Alaskan mariculture industry; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Mariculture Workforce Development Plan will serve to identify workforce demands and training needs of this growing industry; and

WHEREAS, the Mariculture Workforce Committee identified specific strategies and action steps to support workforce development in alignment with the Alaska Mariculture Cluster's mission and vision;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Workforce Investment Board supports the Alaska Mariculture Workforce Development Plan and its cooperative efforts to implement the activities contained in the plan.

CERTIFICATION

The AWIB held a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, and convened this 22nd day of February 2024 and the foregoing Resolution was adopted at said meeting.

Signed this 22nd day of February 2024

Mari Selle, Chair

Alaska Workforce Investment Board