

Should this item be pulled from the consent agenda the following motion is suggested:

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2018-03 on first and final reading.



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Hunter and Assembly Members
Keith Brady, Municipal Administrator

From: Stan Eliason, Harbormaster

Date: February 21st 2018

Subject: Support of Senate Bill 92 derelict and abandoned vessels

Hundreds of boats exist abandoned and derelict along Alaska's coasts and municipal harbors. Unfortunately, while we will always have this legacy of boats to contend with, the problem continues to grow.

Alaska has no vessel title system to track ownership, unlike cars, though vessels are supposed to be registered. Anyone can sell a timeworn heap with a contract written on a napkin in a bar for \$1.00. I have witnessed this many times in my 22 year career with the harbors. As long as they keep the napkin as proof of sale, they have shed themselves of responsibility if it sinks the next day.

I have been dealing with the above scenario since June of 2017. The vessel is derelict and is below my office and is a work in progress to dispose of it. I don't believe the new owner even exists. SB 92 will give me the tools to deal with ownership in the future.

Senate Bill 92 improves our state derelict vessel law, and will provide commonsense protections for responsible boat owners, municipalities, the State and Tribes throughout Alaska.

The Port and Harbor Commission did not support the original draft of this Bill. The original draft included a vessel insurance requirement. The Bill currently has no provisions for vessel insurance. Unfortunately, we did not have a quorum this month. I believe the commission would have supported the updated version of SB 92. SB 92 is a moving Bill and I'm looking for the Assembly's support.