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Commissioner

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## Press Release

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### Commissioner of Labor Issues Alaska Hire Determination *Top priority is jobs for Alaskans*

JUNEAU: Labor Commissioner Heidi Drygas has issued an Alaska Hire determination, requiring that 90% of state-funded public construction jobs be filled by Alaska residents. This determination restores Alaska Hire requirements after they were rescinded in 2013.

“When the state of Alaska funds a construction project, those jobs should go to Alaskans first,” said Commissioner Heidi Drygas.

For many years and administrations, Governors Cowper, Hickel, Knowles, Murkowski and Palin maintained Alaska Hire requirements for state projects, based on criteria established by the state legislature. Data from the Labor Department’s Research and Analysis Division shows Alaska meets those statutory criteria.

Economic data demonstrate that non-residents obtained a larger number of jobs and a greater share of wages following the cancellation of statewide Alaska Hire in 2013. In 2013, non-residents earned \$2.4 billion working on jobs in Alaska.

Alaska Hire requirements apply on a project-by-project, craft-by-craft basis, and must be met each work week by contractors and subcontractors. The department’s Wage and Hour staff oversee Alaska Hire standards, and contractors with questions regarding Alaska Hire should contact their local Wage and Hour office.

The Commissioner’s Alaska Hire determination is effective July 1, 2015. Commissioner Drygas is issuing it in advance of the effective date to give contractors notice as they prepare bids for projects.

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