

# SENATOR BERT STEDMAN

Senate District A



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## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### [SB 346](#)

The International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots, Pacific Maritime Region represents licensed deck officers, state pilots and other marine personnel employed by the Alaska Marine Highway System.

The State recently concluded collective bargaining terms with the Masters, Mates and Pilots Unit. Effective January 1, 2004, the State's per employee contribution to the Masters, Mates and Pilots members will increase \$75.00 per month, for a total contribution of \$705 per month per employee. This is the same term that was reported to the 2003 Legislature. There are no provisions in the new agreement that would change State revenues or change current productive work hours. The Legislature must approve these monetary terms per [AS 23.40.215](#).

In recognition of the hard work and contribution these employees make to the Southeast Alaska economy and to maintain harmonious relations, I want to get the terms of this agreement approved by the Legislature as quickly as possible. The agreement is pending ratification by union membership, and probability of acceptance is extremely high.