

# INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION



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## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** All ILWU Locals and Affiliates  
**FROM:** International Titled Officers  
**SUBJECT:** SOLIDARITY FOR STRIKING IBU MEMBERS IN ALASKA  
**DATE:** July 26, 2019

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Four hundred of our sisters and brothers were forced out on strike this Wednesday, July 24 in Alaska. They help run Alaska's Marine Highway System that connects dozens of remote communities across the state, many of which have no road access.

These members of the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific are a part of the ILWU's Marine Division. They've been trying to negotiate a contract for the past 2 years and 9 months, but the administration of Alaska Governor Dunleavy has frustrated their efforts to reach a settlement by demanding higher health care contributions and cuts in take-home pay. Earlier this year, the Governor slashed ferry funding by 75%, and his allies are pushing to privatize the public ferries.

"Members are fighting for their families and helping dozens of communities who depend on public ferries to survive," says Inlandboatmen's Union President Marina Secchitano. She's working on the strike with Alaska Regional Director Trina Arnold and their leadership team. Staff from our International Union are also assisting.

The IBU has been fighting this battle by connecting with communities who rely on the ferry system and are threatened by service cuts. Reports of their community organizing efforts have appeared in recent issues of *The Dispatcher*.

This fight that involves our sisters and brothers in the ILWU family, and they need our support.

The IBU is accepting donations. Any support will be appreciated and go directly to families in need. Please make checks to the IBU, attention Terri Mast, IBU Secretary-Treasurer, and mail to the IBU National Office at 1711 W. Nickerson Street, Suite D, Seattle, WA 98119 Thank you for your support and solidarity.

*An injury to one is an injury to all.*