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Registered Apprenticeship Roundtable Highlights Expansion of Alaska Training Programs

ANCHORAGE, Alaska— The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development is hosting the third annual Registered Apprenticeship Roundtable, which will take place at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) headquarters on December 14 and 15. Panels and workshops will highlight new apprenticeship programs, new partnerships with colleges and universities, and will feature testimony from individual Alaskans who have built their careers with apprenticeship. Over the past year, Alaska employers have created more than 200 new apprenticeships across the state.

"We are seeing incredible growth in apprenticeship, and that is great news for our economy and the health of Alaska's middle class," said Labor Commissioner Heidi Drygas.

Apprenticeship programs highlighted at this year's roundtable include health care apprenticeships sponsored by the Alaska Primary Care Association, behavioral health apprenticeships sponsored by ANTHC, maritime apprenticeships sponsored by Calista Corporation, energy efficiency apprenticeships for the North Slope Borough, Associate Teacher apprenticeships sponsored by Lower Kuskokwim School District, construction/oil and gas apprenticeships, mining apprenticeships, and apprenticeship partnerships with University of Alaska Anchorage, Alaska Pacific University, and Ilisagvik College.

Registered Apprenticeship combines on-the-job training with technical classroom instruction, and is designed to offer worker training based on the needs of employers. In Alaska, Registered Apprenticeship has long been the foundation of training in the construction industry. More recently, many large health care employers have started using Registered Apprenticeship. Employers interested in more information on apprenticeship programs should contact Apprenticeship Coordinator Jacqueline Garcia at 907-269-3729 or Jacqueline.Garcia@alaska.gov.