



Department of Commerce
Innovation is in our nature.

Sustaining, Growing and Improving Jobs and the Economy in the Maritime Sector

Port of Seattle Commission Roundtable
March 27, 2014

Governor Inslee's Priorities



“Our number one priority is revitalizing Washington's economy....building a 21st century workforce...(and)...creat(ing) an economic climate where innovation and entrepreneurship can continue to thrive. ”

Focus on Key Sectors:

- **Maritime!**
- Clean energy
- Agriculture
- Military
- Aerospace
- Life sciences
- Information and communication technology

See <http://www.governor.wa.gov/issues/default.aspx>





Department of Commerce Mission:

"Grow and Improve Jobs in Washington State"

My job:

- Focal point and advisor on Maritime Issues within State government
- Advocate for the Maritime industry, within State government, and externally
- Help build coalitions to raise the awareness of the industry and act on issues of common interest



The Maritime Industry—Broadly Defined



Diverse, somewhat fragmented and under-appreciated set of subsectors, including:

- Cargo and logistics---moving freight
- Fishing and seafood processing
- Ship and boat building, repair and maintenance
- Recreational boating
- Passenger vessel operations
- Numerous support industries



Why Does it Matter?



- Direct employment: 57,700....vs. 94,000 for aerospace
- Pay: \$70,200 vs. \$52,000 statewide average
- Growing—6.4%, but under threats
- Legacy, but not old!



What Have We Learned?



- Industry players see threats in all segments
- Lack of understanding of the sector and it's importance some places in state government
- We need to have a stronger, better coordinated voice in Olympia, throughout the state and with the public generally
- Industry are happy about the focus, but we need to show results!
- I need help!



Priorities



- **Market, promote and build awareness...internally and externally**
- **Build coalition to do that**
- **Carry the message and help on port competitiveness issues**
- **Big impact opportunity: fishing fleet rebuild**
- **Prioritize issues that cross segments:**
- **Again: market our brand**
- **Regulatory Balance**
- **Workforce Development**





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For more information

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