

A NEW VISION FOR THE LAST FRONTIER

THE ALASKA BITCOIN “Sound Money” INITIATIVE 8/15/24

Alaska's state motto (North to the Future) was adopted in 1967 during the Alaska Purchase Centennial. The motto is meant to represent Alaska as a land of promise. April 1974 construction of the pipeline began, and the slogan then represented the booming oil industry and a flourishing economy happening in Alaska at the time. My dad worked on the pipeline and with his earnings bought land in Girdwood where he built a family and a dream. That dream does not exist for too many Alaskans right now.

Today I look around my beautiful city of Anchorage and it looks nothing futuristic at all. But more like a hollowed gutted out city victimized by a boom-and-bust oil industry struggling to recover from a global pandemic. Rows of buildings along a once thriving Spenard are boarded up and vandalized. Come winter, downtown Anchorage resembles Chernobyl. Restaurants and shops are forced to close because it is slow, and people are living on the streets in subzero temperatures as never seen before. The moral is low, the substance abuse high, and our elected officials do not have a vision. Our situation is urgent.

I am calling on my fellow Alaskans to live up to our statehood moto and invite a new industry into our state. That industry is tech, bitcoin and blockchain.

We cannot afford to sit on the sidelines of the biggest financial and innovative human development in perhaps human history. We cannot afford to rely solely on outside interests and industries that seek only to extract Alaska's natural resources and that do not sustain our local economy nor encourage innovation or entrepreneurial vitality in our cities. If they did Anchorage would not look the way it does.

One thing all Alaskans love is freedom. Bitcoin and blockchain technology hold the promise of freedom as we move forward in the digital age.

Blockchain can be used in nearly every industry from tracking and making transparent government spending, to freeing us from the hellscape of the state business and licensing bureaucracy that is crippling our local industries with slow processing times in every sector. Alaska's fishing and maritime industries have partnered with UAF in developing decentralized usage of blockchain for recording and make transparent where fish are caught and how they are harvested, also known as “bate to plate”. Simply put, Blockchain is a type of digital ledger or database that secures records and transaction across many computers. This technology generally lowers costs and speeds up transactions by removing the middleman, completing transparent transactions peer to peer.

With bitcoin we can invest in Alaska's future and take stake in this financial and social revolution. Bitcoin presents an inclusive opportunity for all. We can use this opportunity to include indigenous peoples, people of color, and females who have historically been shut out of opportunities of first-generation wealth building and economic decision making.

Several 2nd and 3rd world countries have already adopted and embraced bitcoin for economic stability, innovation, and financial equity. BITCOIN IS DEFLATIONARY.

Santa Monica has recently become the first city in the US to pilot The Santa Monica Bitcoin Office program, El Salvador was the first in exploring similar initiatives in which I have listed below.

I propose hosting The Alaska Bitcoin and Blockchain Summit here in Anchorage 2025. We will invite industry leaders and local leaders in business and community to explore the following:

- 1) Identify initiatives/partnerships that support Anchorage/Alaska's economic recovery and cultivate economic growth.
- 2) Identify remote and local career opportunities for Alaskan residents and students
- 3) Explore means of utilizing renewable energy and environmentally neutral means of bitcoin mining.
- 4) Bitcoin education for Alaskan residents, students, businesses, and representatives of the people statewide.

It is up to our generation to reclaim our state motto, "north to the future". The time is now.

Beth Alta Fletcher,