

To whom it may concern,

This morning I read a distressing article (State to Allow Union Protest of Private Ferry Service, June 8 2004, www.thesunlink.com) regarding one union-and a dubious one that represents an inordinately small amount of the population of Kitsap County- that is trying to sabotage the economy of the area.

Let's face facts: The economy of Kitsap county is tied to two things, the US Navy and the economy of Seattle.

Why any right-thinking individual who is interested in the long-term economy of Kitsap County would want to limit ties and stop possible ties to the Seattle area is beyond me.

My wife and I just bought our first home in a neighborhood less than 2 miles from downtown Kingston. We bought partially on the assumption that passenger ferry service would be implemented between Kingston and Seattle- thereby exposing the entire North Kitsap area, let alone Kingston proper, to the Seattle masses with their high paying jobs and tiredness for paying outrageous home prices in King county. Seattle workers who live in Kitsap county will use their high paying salaries to increase home values in the area. Rising home values leads to a higher net worth and accordingly a higher standard of living for all.

What's more is that the union in question is already surely partially to blame for the failure to implement food service on existing ferry runs (No fare: food delayed, June 8 2004, www.thesunlink.com)- and is currently throwing everything but the kitchen sink to stop a ferry run that many Kingston residents like myself are longing for.

Please make the right choice and allow private companies the mere opportunity to offer a service that the State hasn't shown the inclination, let alone the ability, to offer for the local residents who want the service.

Respectfully,

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