
From: Kathy Steadman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 10:22 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 104

Please do not pass HB 104. Doubling the motor tax right now after all your constituents are going through with the pandemic and economy being shut down is just wrong. This is the wrong time to be passing any new taxes!!

Thank you.

Kathy Steadman

From: LYNN LOWRY <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 11:24 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 104

Ladies & Gentlemen of the Alaska State Legislature,
I am writing to vote totally against HB 104!!

All Alaska people, no matter the ethnicity, age, color, heritage, genealogy, native or from transplants, we are ALL here because we want to be.

We want to be independent, smaller government, live within our means, learn from our mistakes, raise our families and our children, be respectful and respected, listened to, make the best of our circumstances financially, personally and be responsible for ourselves, help others as we can and accept help as needed especially when we don't know how.

What we don't want is people who think they know better than we do. We don't need people telling us how to spend money that is not theirs and try to get every last penny in our wallets. The State Legislature has been taking money from ALL Alaskans since 2015. Taking our PFD payments, taking more and more money in taxes of one kind or another. You keep taking money and never try to live within your means as a State.

There are so many Special Interest groups pushing this state one way or another with the Natural Resources that belong to ALL of US and NOT the LEGISLATURE!! The Natural Resources are NOT YOURS to deal with.

This additional fuel tax will put our small economy into a downward spiral that we will never recover from. You as Legislatures won't feel the pinch because you get reimbursed for all your expenses. I wish all the rest of us did. You won't feel the pinch because you don't live out of the city, don't have to rely on Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid or other benefits when living on a strict, fixed income.

The Fuel Tax will ONLY effect those who can LEAST AFFORD any extra expenses, especially those on a fixed income. ALL the rest of US will be paying for this increase not only at the pump but extra costs on EVERYTHING else (food, clothes, taxies, air tickets, heating oil, electricity, EVERYTHING!!) as well. Whatever the increase is that much more plus will be added to the cost of EVERYTHING else we touch in our lives. HOW IS THAT FAIR!!

THE ONLY way these extra funds will work as described is to set these funds aside into a special roads account!! Not the General State Budget, Not the Miscellaneous Budget, not the State Reserve Budget. Make these funds a State Constitutional Amendment so each penny of the additional tax is strictly accounted for.

The next step in these funds will be to conduct research on various road paving products to find those that last. Do complete research on the various road bases and mixtures of soil, rock, clay and other materials. Ensure proper insulation, water divergent culverts, fish and wildlife waterways and trails are modeled into any new construction with proper permits and construction techniques which include earthquake materials and binding agents.

With these conditions and criteria, then the ALL of US here in Alaska can definitely and truly feel that we are listened to, respected and will respect ALL of you as you would like to be.

ALL of you put your pants on just like the rest of US. We elect YOU to LISTEN to ALL of US and NOT be TREATED LIKE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL WE ARE DOING AND WE DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL US HOW TO SPEND OUR MONEY!!

ALL OF YOU ARE IN PUBLIC SERVICE!! ACT LIKE IT!!

Respectfully,

B. Lynn Lowry

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: Susan Saxton [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:19 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 104

I urge you to vote no on this bill. We Alaskans cannot afford another tax levied on us at this time. So many of us are struggling to make ends meet now as it is. With the impending reliability on foreign oil looming ahead, which will surely have an impact on our future fuel prices, please do not impose yet another tax on us.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen and Susan Saxton
Homer, Alaska.

Sent from my iPad

From: Chandra Caffroy [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:56 AM
To: Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Calvin Schrage; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Christopher Kurka; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. David Eastman; Rep. David Nelson; Rep. DeLena Johnson; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. James Kaufman; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Liz Snyder; Rep. Matt Claman; Rep. Mike Cronk; Rep. Mike Prax; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Ronald Gillham; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Zack Fields; representstive.ken.mccarty@akleg.gov
Subject: HB104

Representatives,

You have heard from special interest groups that all profit from this bill.

Let me take this time to remind you the role of government. First, what it is not, government is not meant to serve as the largest employer, whether through government programs or contracts. Let me also just say that the CLEAR bias in allowing ONLY these special interest groups to testify this morning is abhorrent. I'm disgusted with how this committee is running things and making sure they had time to have their say but hearing nothing from the public.

Now let's address what all of these special interest groups aren't talking about, misuse of the people's money, because as long as that money is flowing their direction, they don't care. No one has mentioned the ferries that were built and can't be used because they're too big for our docks. Every time there is a vote to cut government spending you start with our roads. Every. Time. That or schools. You act like the money couldn't possibly come from anywhere else. There is a tax that comes almost directly from tourists themselves, multiple, actually. Millions come in from the cruise ships, FOR the docks and services at various ports. Stop acting like that doesn't exist. There is a bed tax for tourists throughout our state, just for out of state people. Where are you spending these taxes then, if not to increase tourism, and maintain these travel routes etc? There is a tax on everything! Multiple taxes actually. Every time we turn around you're adding taxes somewhere. It was said several times that, horror of horrors, Alaska has the lowest fuel tax in the nation. Oh no! You look at this with horror rather than with pride. That is a mistake. Your entire goal when it comes to the budget of OUR money should be to find ways to decrease spending, every time. Decrease spending, spend wisely. This is not your money.

Government has become so bloated and corrupt, you've managed to convince people you need more of their own money to go and misuse it again?

No. Time to cut the budget. Not on schools or roads, but your own bloated paychecks. Cut government programs and jobs. You know, the useless and corrupt ones, like OCS and the oversight on oversight on oversight. Enough is enough. What about your spending on UAA? Shouldn't UAA make up their own budget based on tuition? I mean, that is how every other business works, but you've allowed them to be funded by the state for so long they've expanded beyond their income and now can't do as they've promised because they don't have the income without siphoning it from Alaskans pockets. I could go on, but do I need to?

Audit the books, cut programs that aren't necessary, cut programs that increase dependency on the government and don't encourage independence and self reliance.

Alaskans do NOT support this bill.

Open it up for actual public testimony. Every time. If you're going to open it up for public testimony at all, you make those special interest groups wait in the queue like everyone else.

Chandra Caffroy
Alaskans For Constitutional Rights

From: Krista Schooley [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:51 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104

I oppose HB104.

Krista Schooley
[REDACTED], Soldotna, Ak 99669
D31

From: Chandra Caffroy [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:56 AM
To: Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Calvin Schrage; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Christopher Kurka; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. David Eastman; Rep. David Nelson; Rep. DeLena Johnson; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. James Kaufman; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Liz Snyder; Rep. Matt Claman; Rep. Mike Cronk; Rep. Mike Prax; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Ronald Gillham; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Zack Fields; representstive.ken.mccarty@akleg.gov
Subject: HB104

Representatives,

You have heard from special interest groups that all profit from this bill.

Let me take this time to remind you the role of government. First, what it is not, government is not meant to serve as the largest employer, whether through government programs or contracts. Let me also just say that the CLEAR bias in allowing ONLY these special interest groups to testify this morning is abhorrent. I'm disgusted with how this committee is running things and making sure they had time to have their say but hearing nothing from the public.

Now let's address what all of these special interest groups aren't talking about, misuse of the people's money, because as long as that money is flowing their direction, they don't care. No one has mentioned the ferries that were built and can't be used because they're too big for our docks. Every time there is a vote to cut government spending you start with our roads. Every. Time. That or schools. You act like the money couldn't possibly come from anywhere else. There is a tax that comes almost directly from tourists themselves, multiple, actually. Millions come in from the cruise ships, FOR the docks and services at various ports. Stop acting like that doesn't exist. There is a bed tax for tourists throughout our state, just for out of state people. Where are you spending these taxes then, if not to increase tourism, and maintain these travel routes etc? There is a tax on everything! Multiple taxes actually. Every time we turn around you're adding taxes somewhere. It was said several times that, horror of horrors, Alaska has the lowest fuel tax in the nation. Oh no! You look at this with horror rather than with pride. That is a mistake. Your entire goal when it comes to the budget of OUR money should be to find ways to decrease spending, every time. Decrease spending, spend wisely. This is not your money.

Government has become so bloated and corrupt, you've managed to convince people you need more of their own money to go and misuse it again?

No. Time to cut the budget. Not on schools or roads, but your own bloated paychecks. Cut government programs and jobs. You know, the useless and corrupt ones, like OCS and the oversight on oversight on oversight. Enough is enough. What about your spending on UAA? Shouldn't UAA make up their own budget based on tuition? I mean, that is how every other business works, but you've allowed them to be funded by the state for so long they've expanded beyond their income and now can't do as they've promised because they don't have the income without siphoning it from Alaskans pockets. I could go on, but do I need to?

Audit the books, cut programs that aren't necessary, cut programs that increase dependency on the government and don't encourage independence and self reliance.

Alaskans do NOT support this bill.

Open it up for actual public testimony. Every time. If you're going to open it up for public testimony at all, you make those special interest groups wait in the queue like everyone else.

From: Julie Martyn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:41 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104

Do you want my concern,

I am writing to voice my opposition to increasing taxes on fuel at this time. It is not the time to be adding a new taxes! Thank you.

Julie Martyn
[REDACTED]

From: Michele Hartline <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:30 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104

Alaska state legislature House finance committee.

I'm asking you to respect the people of the state of Alaska and do not pass HB104. We do not need more taxes that will hurt our families even more during this pandemic.

Thank you for listening to us.

Michele Hartline

Nikiski

Sent from my iPhone

From: Rosie Torres <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:12 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104

To the Legislature,

What world do you live in to want to double taxes? Especially right now?

Please vote no on doubling the fuel tax and if you are a yes vote, I guarantee I will work hard to find your replacement.

Rosie Torres

Sent from my iPhone

From: Russell Biggs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:45 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Hb104

I oppose the increase in gas tax

From: mike mendenhall [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:40 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Hb104

I am writing in opposition of HB104. I do not support the increase of tax on fuels in any way. Please vote against this bill

Mike Mendenhall

[REDACTED]

Kenai am 99611

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sybille Castro-Curry [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 6:59 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104

Please say NO TO HB104. It's the wrong time to pass this tax. Alaskans are already suffering, with reduced and soon non-existent PFD, economic upheaval, unemployment, job loss, deeply disturbing national problems, this additional tax will only further hurt us already struggling Alaskans.

Sincerely concerned Alaskan,
Sybille Castro-Curry
Nikiski

From: reneeawellington <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:09 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 104

Representatives,

I do not support HB 104. So many people in the state are feeling the burden of the events of this last year and are struggling. Adding taxes is not the answer. Catering to special interest groups is not the answer. You are there to support Alaskans. Seems like you are more interested in nickel and diming us. It is time you realize who is providing your paychecks.

Please do not pass HB 104.

Respectfully

Renee Wellington
Palmer, Alaska

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10e, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: Kelly Grace Fishler [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:26 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Public testimony opposition HB 104

I oppose 104. Stop raising our taxes! If that's your best idea then you need some better ideas. I have no doubt there are those along with said ideas, find another way. No higher taxes. You will break the back of the state one tax hike at a time.

Respectfully,
Kelly Fishler

From: Kendall Young [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 8:55 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104.

The last thing that Alaskans need, on top of a potentially defunct PFD is to tax Alaskans more. I oppose HB104, my family opposes HB104, along with literally anyone I have talked to. Anyone who is in favor of this bill will lose my support, and I will make every effort to help others unseat those in other districts who support this.

Sincerely,
Kendall

From: Brian Plummer [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 6:17 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB104 Gas Tax

Good morning

I am writing this email in opposition to HB104 and increasing the gas tax.

There is never a good time to increase taxes. Between the disastrous year the Alaskan economy had in 2020 and the unknowns of 2021, increasing the burden to Alaskan families is a terrible idea.

There have been no meaningful cuts to the State of Alaska spending budget in the last decade, and the bureaucracy of our state government is bloated beyond belief.

Start there.

Sincerely

--

Brian Plummer

From: Regina Daniels <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 6:54 AM
To: Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. DeLena Johnson
Cc: Alicia Siira; Scott Davis
Subject: Letter of Support for HB104, Motor Fuel Tax

May 11, 2021

Dear House Members:

We're writing today in support of HB 104, the Motor Fuel Tax bill. While we're proponents of keeping taxes at a minimum, we believe the State Motor Fuel tax is long overdue for an increase.

Our company, Davis Block and Concrete is located on the Kenai Peninsula. We transport many different construction products throughout the state. We see on a daily basis the roads in disrepair as well the lack of snow removal as a result of continual AK DOT operations and maintenance budget cuts. Increasing this tax would be a step forward for the the SOA and closing the gap in road maintenance.

Additionally, in support of HB 104, we request for the increase in highway tax revenue be directed to the DOT operations and maintenance.

Best Regards,

Scott & Regina Davis
Owners, Davis Block & Concrete
36122 Ravenwood Street
Kenai, AK 99611



From: Rene' Gervais <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 7:25 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Stop rising fuel costs

Please take care of the governmental mess with governmental money. The Alaskan people can't afford higher fuel costs. People are already struggling under the economic pressure becomes of failed government and poor policies at the hands of corrupt gov.

Sincerely,
Rene' Gervais

--

Rene Gervais

From: Douglas Lowry <d[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 10:59 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Fuel Tax

Ladies & Gentlemen of the Alaska State Legislature,

I am writing to vote totally against HB 104!!

All Alaska people, no matter the ethnicity, age, color, heritage, genealogy, native or from transplants, we are ALL here because we want to be.

We want to be independent, smaller government, live within our means, learn from our mistakes, raise our families and our children, be respectful and respected, listened to, make the best of our circumstances financially, personally and be responsible for ourselves, help others as we can and accept help as needed especially when we don't know how.

What we don't want is people who think they know better than we do. We don't need people telling us how to spend money that is not theirs and try to get every last penny in our wallets. The State Legislature has been taking money from ALL Alaskans since 2015. Taking our PFD payments, taking more and more money in taxes of one kind or another. You keep taking money and never try to live within your means as a State.

There are so many Special Interest groups pushing this state one way or another with the Natural Resources that belong to ALL of US and NOT the LEGISLATURE!! The Natural Resources are NOT YOURS to deal with.

This additional fuel tax will put our small economy into a downward spiral that we will never recover from. You as Legislatures won't feel the pinch because you get reimbursed for all your expenses. I wish all the rest of us did. You won't feel the pinch because you don't live out of the city, don't have to rely on Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid or other benefits when living on a strict, fixed income.

The Fuel Tax will ONLY effect those who can LEAST AFFORD any extra expenses, especially those on a fixed income. ALL the rest of US will be paying for this increase not only at the pump but extra costs on EVERYTHING else (food, clothes, taxis, air tickets, heating oil, electricity, EVERYTHING!!) as well. Whatever the increase is that much more plus will be added to the cost of EVERYTHING else we touch in our lives. HOW IS THAT FAIR!!

THE ONLY way these extra funds will work as described is to set these funds aside into a special roads account!! Not the General State Budget, Not the Miscellaneous Budget, not the State Reserve Budget. Make these funds a State Constitutional Amendment so each penny of the additional tax is strictly accounted for.

The next step in these funds will be to conduct research on various road paving products to find those that last. Do complete research on the various road bases and mixtures of soil, rock, clay and other materials. Ensure proper insulation, water divergent culverts, fish and wildlife waterways and trails are modeled into any new construction with proper permits and construction techniques which include earthquake materials and binding agents.

With these conditions and criteria, then the ALL of US here in Alaska can definitely and truly feel that we are listened to, respected and will respect ALL of you as you would like to be.

ALL of you put your pants on just like the rest of US. We elect YOU to LISTEN to ALL of US and NOT be TREATED LIKE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL WE ARE DOING AND WE DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL US HOW TO SPEND OUR MONEY!!

ALL OF YOU ARE IN PUBLIC SERVICE!! ACT LIKE IT!!

Respectfully,

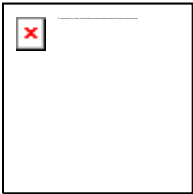
Douglas B. Lowry

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Douglas B. Lowry.

From: Michael Dale [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 6:51 PM
To: House Finance; Rep. Kevin McCabe; House Ways and Means; Senate Finance; Senate Judiciary
Subject: HB 104 Gas Tax

I would like to express my displeasure that anyone in the Alaska legislature would even consider raising the gas tax when folks are having a hard time placing food upon their tables. What makes it worse is that the tax doesn't go towards fixing the miserable roads throughout the state but could be used for anything. This is absolutely outrageous. To make myself perfectly clear, I ask that you vote NO on HB 104. Thank you for listening to my concerns.--

Michael Dale



mr.msdaile@gmail.com