From: Karen Button
To: House Transportation
Subject: HB 136
Date: Monday, March 31, 2025 9:19:35 PM

Greetings and thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 136.

I am opposed to this bill as written.

Though I have many concerns about the AK Railroad, for example using herbicides and also clear-cutting along the ROW (even in places where there is a Municipality of Anchorage requirement for a 25-foot setback to Fish Creek), the placement of a public use trail is not one of of my concerns. Yet, it appears that HB 136 is designed in such a way that it could be used to prevent the Fish Creek Trail to the Ocean connection, which has been in the Anchorage Trails Plan since 1997. This is a very popular trail, as shown on March 19 when the project team held an Open House at the Spenard Rec Center. This trail would provide a necessary connection between west Anchorage and the Coastal Trail. Further, millions has already been spent designing the trail.

If HB 136 moves forward, it should be done with language that guarantees this trail connection would not be in jeopardy.

Thank you,

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~karen button
spenard, alaska

dena'inaq ełnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu.
i live and work on the land of the dena’ina.

translation: s. shaginoff-stuart, j. isaac