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Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:44 AM

To: Sen. Kevin Meyer <Sen.Kevin.Meyer@akleg.gov>; Sen. David Wilson <Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov>;
Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>; Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>;
Sen. Dennis Egan <Sen.Dennis.Egan@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 138

Honorable Alaska Senator(s)

I, Gregory Nothstine, support Alaska State House Bill 138 (HB138). The time is right for a proactive public policy to acknowledge and appreciate an aggregate population of Alaskans who already (silently) exemplify three-societal benefits that HB 138 speaks and help the State of Alaska meet its declaration of policy under AS 47.37.010:

1. This non-consumer population helps improve the quality of life and health for themselves, their families, and their communities;
2. This non-consumer population helps reduce the incidence and pervasive social ills associated with alcohol and drug abuse;
3. This non-consumer population helps reduce the tax burden on our local, state, and federal governments in paying for the pervasive social ills associated with alcohol and drug abuse.

I want to thank the Alaska State Legislature for its proactive and innovative approach to lead the nation, just like its territorial predecessors did when they passed the first civil rights legislation in the nation. The passage of HB 138 may not be an immediate cure-all to the problems that currently exist. However, HB138 is a much-needed public policy that will help close the loop on a long and arduous history, with alcohol and drug abuse, that celebrates the contributions of the existing segment of our society that protects and contributes, rather than hinders and destroys, our common way of life.

As an Alaska citizen, sober 29 years since May 10, 1988, I salute and support the passage of HB 138. This legislation, if passed, will ensure that the State of Alaska remains what it has always been – “The Great Land!”

Yours truly,

Gregory Nothstine, President
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