



AARP Alaska
3601 C Street
Suite 1420
Anchorage, AK 99503

T 1-866-227-7447
F 907-341-2270
TTY 1-877-434-7598
www.aarp.org/ak

March 8, 2010

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon, Co-Chair
House Energy Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Charisse Millet, Co-Chair
House Energy Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 412
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 278 (Tuck, Munoz, Peterson, Herron, Joule, Foster)--Support

Dear Co-Chairs Edgmon and Millet:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House Energy Committee to support HB 278, co-authored by Representatives Tuck, Munoz, Peterson, Herron, Joule, and Foster and co-sponsored by Representative Gara.

When the Legislature passed the home energy efficiency program it was a historic effort to enable homes throughout Alaska to be weatherized. Certainly assistance with utility bills is welcome. However, weatherization that permanently reduces those bills is even more desirable and good public policy.

However, there can be significant up-front costs that the homeowner pays before they are eligible for the rebate. There can also be a significant time delay between when the homeowner first makes his/her payment and the house is re-examined to find out if they have met the energy saving goals for the rebate.

HB 278 addresses that issue. We have many Alaskans who are just getting by financially. Their houses need to be weatherized and, as a result, their monthly housing costs will decline. For those Alaskans who simply don't have the capability of paying upfront, HB 278 will provide another option.

AARP requests an "AYE" vote on HB 278.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin

Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506
Juneau, AK 99801
586-3637 (voice)
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Representative Nancy Dahlstrom
Representative Kyle Johansen
Representative Jay Ramras
Representative Pete Peterson
Representative Chris Tuck
Representative Cathy Munoz
Representative Bob Herron
Representative Reggie Joule
Representative Neal Foster



International Mechanical, Inc.

646 E. DOWLING RD. ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518
(907) 563-3044 FAX (907) 561-7689

March 9, 2010

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon, Co-Chair
House Energy Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Charlsse Millett, Co-Chair
House Energy Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 412
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Co-Chairs Edgmon and Millett,

I am writing you because my business supports HB 278.

We do many weatherization jobs, about thirty each year, but perform relatively few home energy efficiency rebate jobs. I believe that's because people are having a hard time affording to pay for the work while waiting for a rebate.

HB 278 will let contractors secure more work by opening up the option for more families to do energy upgrades. It will help our business and keep our employees working, and help families.

Please support our jobs and our industry and pass HB 278.

Thank you in advance for sharing my business support with other committee members.

Warm Regards,

Kevin Carey: President

Aurah Landau

From: hilaryh52@gci.net on behalf of Hilary Hardwick [hilaryh52@gci.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 06, 2010 5:14 PM
Subject: Rep. Chris Tuck
Home Energy Bill

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: NonConstituent

Dear Rep. Tuck,

Please pass this bill. I am one of those would like to weatherize my home and I know it would make a huge change but I don't have enough extra income to pay for the up front costs - at least not within the timelines. It's taken me 4 years to save enough to get new windows - I have the original windows from 1970 and they are very leaky. I urge you to support this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Hilary Hardwick, Anchorage

Aurah Landau

From: Hugh Brown [lobbypublic@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 05, 2010 11:42 AM
To: Rep. Chris Tuck
Subject: Keep Up the Good Work.

I support the energy efficiency bill. Keep up the good work.

Hugh Brown III
907-884-9968
lobbypublic@yahoo.com

**Abbott Loop
Community
Council**


7001 Oakwood Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99507

Phone: WK 562-7421 HM 349-1736
Fax: 907-562-1366

Facsimile

To: Members of House Special Committee on Energy
@Fax: 907-465-3810
From: A.L. Tamagni, Sr., President
Date: 03/09/2010
Re: HB 278
Pages: 1, including this

This is to advise the Abbott Loop Community supports this bill as it would be beneficial for a number of families in our area. It would streamline the process and benefit those who cannot afford to front the money up front.



March 9, 2010

Members of the Committee:


I urge your support for House Bill 278, the Home Energy Voucher program.

This proposal will help many homeowners like me, who earn too much to qualify for the existing free weatherization program, but don't have available funds to pay for energy efficiency upgrades. Because of challenging economic times, many homeowners are unable to pay for upgrades up front and are currently excluded from the process. Offering vouchers will extend the benefits of the program to many more Alaskans, increasing both individual quality of life and the positive impacts of responsible energy use on the environment.


The weatherization program is an effective and worthwhile program. The measure has already helped thousands of Alaskans upgrade the energy efficiency of their homes. It has helped spur job growth in related trades industries as businesses work to fill orders. It is moving Alaska into the forefront of cutting-edge environmentally conscious states. By extending all of these benefits to more Alaskans, House Bill 278 makes a good thing better.

Respectfully,

Cindy Lelake



Anchorage



February 9th, 2010

Co-chairs

Honorable Representative Bryce Edgmon

Honorable Representative Charisse Millett

I would like to comment on the need for hb278

While the initial burst of applicants for home energy improvements has greatly subsided, I would like to share this observation. The most organized and "together" and in some cases, yes, "greediest" of Alaskans were the first applicants. Those who actually need this the most, who are less organized, who are less educated on the benefits of energy conservation, and especially those who are less savvy about navigating any beaurocratic process, and less savvy or less capable of navigating bank loans are still living in homes with the perhaps the greatest need for improvement.

What is the greatest impediment to those who have not participated in the process? I believe it is the requirement that they first make the improvement out of their own pocket before they are reimbursed. That requirement limits the program to people who have the cash available, and not many people have 10k kicking around unencumbered, or adds the additional step of securing a loan, which again knocks out a good number of people who are in greatest need of this program.

If you choose to move this bill forward, which I hope you do, you will now be serving those who are the hardest to reach, many of whom have the houses in greatest need of help. Additionally let me add this comment. Our state has a long history of aiding people who have very high heating costs. In stead of giving people heating oil assistance, this is a more cost effective way to reduce their heating costs. This program will spend money in Alaska, on things that will STAY in Alaska. If the owners of the improved houses leave the state, they sure cannot take the improvements they purchased for the house with them.

thanks for your kind consideration

please distribute this letter to your committee members

Thanks again

Bill Rotecki
359 Bunchberry Lane
Ketchikan, Ak 99901
billrotecki@gmail.com
cell 907-617-0409
home 907-247-8189

Bill Rotecki
Rainforest Construction LLC
office 907-225-5078
fax 907-247-6357
cell 907-617-0409
home 907-247-8189

Aurah Landau

From: Kendra Kloster
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 2:37 PM
To: Aurah Landau
Subject: FW: HB278 follow up

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI – email from Judy Mason at Tlingit & Haida Regional Housing Authority.

Kendra Kloster
Chief of Staff
Rep. Cathy Muñoz
907-465-4712

From: Judy Mason [mailto:jmason@thrha.org]
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 2:29 PM
To: Kendra Kloster
Cc: Craig Moore
Subject: RE: HB278 follow up

Thank you. The voucher program won't affect our program or clients since it basically goes hand-in-hand with the rebate program. However we do support the voucher program as it will assist Southeast families that don't qualify for our program. We're looking forward to the new AHFC weatherization rules – hopefully any day now. Thanks! Judy

From: Kendra Kloster [mailto:Kendra_Kloster@legis.state.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 1:50 PM
To: Judy Mason
Subject: HB278 follow up

Hi Judy,

I was just following up on the conversation we had last week regarding the voucher program, HB278, and wondering if there was any feedback at the housing authority. I still have a note to check in on the "road remote" and will be in touch with you soon regarding that.

Thanks,

Kendra Kloster
Chief of Staff
Rep. Cathy Muñoz
907-465-4712



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Please support our jobs and our industry and pass HB 278.

Thank you in advance for sharing my business support with other committee members.

Warm Regards,

Kevin Carey: President

Aurah Landau

From: Rebecca Goodrich [scribing@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 07, 2010 8:28 PM
To: Rep. Chris Tuck
Subject: RE: Message from Rep. Tuck -- Relief for Anchorage Ratepayers

Dear Rep. Tuck:

I like this voucher idea. Good work!

Thanks,

Rebecca A. Goodrich

Anchorage, Alaska

GHOSTWRITERS

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907.333.9638 907.243.0159

scribing@hotmail.com