



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

State Affairs

Committee name

Committee on

Senate Bill 18

, dated

Jan 26, 2011

Bill/Subject

See Page #2

Signed:

Mr. Lynn Willis

Testifier

Self

Representing (Optional)

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January 26, 2011

To: Chair Senate State Affairs

Testimony to Senate State Affairs regarding SB 18 (Extending the Term of the Legislature)

I oppose extending the length of the legislative session. I understand the proponents believe that adding back the additional 30 days would somehow improve the legislative process. The record belies that assumption. The actual work of the legislature is traditionally delayed until the end of the session. The proponents of this legislation have offered nothing to change the status quo.

Time to hold a hearing is available. Legislative hearings can be held outside of the session. Legislators now earn an annual salary plus per diem for the days they work.

Nothing in this proposed legislation will stop individual legislators from simply killing bills. Individual legislators have granted themselves defacto veto power over legislation with absolutely no explanation required.

Nothing in the proposed legislation will expedite the resolution of bills that are not of a critical nature or have minimal impact on the citizens. Nothing in this bill will expand BASIS information regarding legislation so that we citizens can see exactly how many bills have been defeated, withdrawn, combined with similar bills or have been pending before specific committees for extended periods of time. Nothing in this legislation will stop the new tactic of not being able to act because studies won't be available for months.

No, you do not additional time to do what you do now. I oppose SB18. Thank you.

Mr. Lynn Willis (Representing Self)