

Comments before the

Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

Good evening,

My name is Caroline Bolar. I am a non-partisan and have been for almost 50 years. I worked in the oil industry; on the TAPS line, the North Slope and Standard Oil; leaving when they were purchased by British Petroleum by taking the first buy-out. While your specific actions are related to jobs, I want to cut to the chase and address the issue that got us here today.

1. You have heard testimony and read many documents about the importance of keeping, "Alaska's Clear and Equitable Share," or "ACES" as it is commonly called. From the other side, the large oil companies that have been hired to produce the oil that belongs to Alaska's citizens are fighting for more money. Exxon, Conoco and British Petroleum are fighting through mis-information, political donations to elected officials or those who wish to become elected officials, and their surrogates, both newbies to Alaska, and some of the old guard.
2. The two Billion, per year that is in question, while substantial, is spare change to some these companies. So why the big push now? It's a matter of power and maintaining power. It is not good business to allow Alaskans to get our fair share.

Please don't forget, these oil producers are nothing but contractors. Would you hire a contractor to come to your home and let them tell you what you were going to get and how much you were going to pay? We act as if the oil is theirs and we are lucky to get what we get. Information has been presented that shows how other countries treat these contractors. These countries set the price, collect the money then pay the contractors.

3. ACES passed amid the turmoil created by the "Corrupt Bastard's Club," and their funders. I believe it would have been impossible for ACES to be in place without the disgust of citizens and their mistrust of our, leaders. Make no mistake ACES is not perfect. It does not come close to fulfilling the requirement of Alaska's Constitution to generate the maximum profit for Alaska's citizens.

You and your colleagues' part in all this is to remember the oath you took when you joined the Legislature. There was nothing in there about getting reelected. There was nothing in there about, "going along to get along." You know what there was in there. You said it. Please remember how you felt when you uttered those words.