

LIO Mat-Su

From: [REDACTED] <jepinak1959@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 8:17 AM
To: LIO Mat-Su
Subject: HB18

I should have the same chance at catching fish as anyone, as long as the commercial people are out there it's not possible. It takes a week after they are done for the fish to start showing up in the rivers, by then they're back in the lower 48 bragging about how they got all the fish and the personal use guys are standing on the banks with their hands in the air because the limits got cut!

Please give personal use fishermen a chance, pass HB18!

Gregory Prothero

Louie Flora

From: highflytim@gmail.com on behalf of Robert Timmins <highflytim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 10:14 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fw: House Bill 18; RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 8AM tomorrow!!

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: R T <highflytim@yahoo.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 17, 2014 at 10:07 PM
Subject: Fw: House Bill 18; RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 8AM tomorrow!!
To: Robert Timmins <highflytim@gmail.com>

Greetings friends and neighbors,

For all you dip netters and fishermen, please take note and support our efforts to turn the tide of fishing in Southcentral in our favor!!

Your effort and words WILL make a difference in this critical matter. Please take a moment to copy and past these comments on to Rep Stoltze or compose your own. It is that important to do. Your future fishing experience and success depends on it.

Thank you so much!
Robert Timmins
Eagle River

On Monday, March 17, 2014 7:51 PM, Bruce Morgan <sampson@acsalaska.net> wrote:
Please write a quick note to Rep Bill Stoltze;
Rep.Bill.Stoltze@akleg.gov

My letter is below, please do the same,
Something short and sweet works!!
Its all about numbers of responses receive.

COPY AND PASTE IT IF YOU WANT!!

From: Bruce Morgan [mailto:sampson@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 7:45 PM
To: **Subject:** House Bill 18

HB 18, "An act providing priority to personal use fisheries when fish restrictions are implemented to achieve a management goal."

Representative Stolze,

My family of 5 believes it is in the best interest of the Alaskan Public to be provided "priority" in the PERSONAL USE fishery when fishing restrictions are implemented!

To be considered a participant in the Personal Use fishery, the person must be an ALASKAN resident!
NEED I SAY MORE?

Does our Political base understand that COMMERCIAL FISHING is only a TOOL to be used by the Department of Fish to STOP OVER-ESCAPEMENT of fish?

A Commercial fishing permit is not a RIGHT TO FISH.

The Commercial fishery is OWED NO FISH by owning a commercial permit.

The Commercial fishery IS JUST A TOOL available to the Dept of Fish to prevent over-escapement if needed.
THAT IS A FACT.

SO, why would we not have the personal use fishery open at ANY TIME a commercial fishery is open?

The personal use fishery should also be considered FIRST as a means of stopping over-escapement of sockeye or other species of salmon,

It should not be, commercial fishing...then personal use fishing

Anytime the personal use fishery is open, if this fishery cannot handle the abundance of fish and over-escapement is imminent,

THEN AND ONLY THEN should the commercial fleet be called on to fish!

Bruce R. Morgan and Family
Robin Childs, wife
Dependant Children; Cade, Colt, and Calie Morgan

6230 Petrified Tree Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
907 346 4855

(I am also a member of the Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee, these comments above are my own)



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"Our *Constitution* was made only for a *moral and religious* people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." - *John Adams*

Louie Flora

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: Support Alaskans and their Families HB 18

-----Original Message-----

From: paul holland [<mailto:pcgholland@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 11:52 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: Support Alaskans and their Families HB 18

Representative Seaton;

Please show support for Alaskans and their Families by supporting or at least allowing the progress of HB 18 out of your committee. As a Board Member of the Chitina Dipnetters I am all too aware of both the lack of Alaskans fishing commercially at Cordova and their priority over those Alaskans who dipnet at Chitina for themselves and their Families.

I ask you sir, do you favor out-state commercial fishery interests or Alaskans and their families? It is that simple. Your actions today in your committee will be answer enough for us all to hear.

Sincerely,

Paul Holland
Board Member Chitina Dipnetter
798 Capricorn
Fairbanks, Ak 99709
home 479-6624

Hello my name is Patti Barber. Thank you for this opportunity to speak on HB 18. My husband and I live in the community known as Butte. Jim Creek is a popular fishing location and is close to the major population of this state. Families used to be able to fill their freezers or can their fish with a few trips to this destination. Not anymore. Fishing in Jim Creek during the past few years has been closed especially when it used to be the best time of the season to be there. I support HB 18 because, where in our State Constitution does it say we have to feed the rest of the world before we feed our Alaskan families? Thank you for your time on this important bill before you.

Patti Barber
17367 E Melin Rd
Palmer, Alaska 99645
(907) 745-4446



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Fisheries
 Committee name
 Committee on HB 18 dated 3/18/14
 Bill/Subject

HB18 clarifies constitutional intent to put Alaskans first. I support the bill and thank Rep. Stotz and Rep. Gottis for sponsoring this bill.

Mat Sa residents by the thousands depend on this fishery (both in Kenai and Chitna) for their own freezers.

Thanks Larry DeVilbiss

Signed: Larry DeVilbiss
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address

746-6593
 Phone number

Louie Flora

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: HB 18

From: Lori Lee [<mailto:leebrianandlori@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 8:16 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: HB 18

Representative Seaton

I would like to express my opinion on House Bill 18. I am personally strongly against giving a favored status to personal use over commercial and sport fishing on the Copper river.

At a time when our economy is shaky at best why would we jepordize a strong and vibrant fishery like the Copper River. I have gillnetted on the Copper since 1985 and have been impressed with the degree of professionalism of our dept. of Fish and Game to manage the salmon fishery. I live in the Glacier View community where jobs are scarce and have depended on commercial fishing alone since 1972. In times of lower abundance I feel that ALL user groups should share the pain of cutbacks.

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion on this matter.
Brian Lee

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: HB #18

From: Michael P McCarthy [<mailto:silkair69@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 10:48 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: HB #18

Representative Seaton
I am opposed to HB # 18
Michael P. McCarthy

KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Karen & Richard McGahan
REPRESENTING: _____
BILL # or SUBJECT: HB 18 Personal Use Fishing Priority
COMMITTEE: House Fisheries **DATE:** March 26, 2013

Regarding HB 18: Please defeat this bill.

HB 18 is a purely political move by a representative who does not live in the are impacted by the dip net fishery on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers. Let the Fish and Game Department manage the fisheries. It is hard enough for them to manage all the various fisheries with their biological data, without continually having to add in the political agendas of legislators.

Thank you,
Richard and Karen Mc Gahan

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: OPPOSE HB18 Personal Use Fishing Priority

From: Lauren Padawer [<mailto:lauren.padawer@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 11:50 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: Re: OPPOSE HB18 Personal Use Fishing Priority

Dear Chairman Seaton and Committee Members:

I am writing as a Cordova District Fishermen United member to oppose HB18 – “Personal Use Fishing Priority”. I know that the Executive Director from CDFU, Alexis Cooper already submitted a letter on behalf of the 300+ members stating the following, but it was so well written, I’d like to echo what she said.

While the Alaska Constitution has granted the Alaska Legislature a right to affect fisheries management legislation, it is not the primary place to be making policy decisions. The legislature’s role is only to serve as a check and balance on an *unbalanced* Board of Fisheries and should be considered a last line of defense to protect Alaskans interests. I believe the Governor has aptly appointed a panel of representatives on the current Board of Fisheries. These appointments are confirmed by legislature based on their ability to represent **all fishery user groups** using sound judgment. I believe the current Board of Fisheries has the authority and expertise to make decisions in the best interest of the State of Alaska to protect and preserve Alaska’s fishery resources. I do not think the Alaska Legislature should be undermining BOF authority on decisions that have already been deliberated on. I consider it a waste of legislature’s time and government spending.

HB18 attempts to undermine and intrude on BOF’s authority.

As Alexis Copper pointed out,

“CDFU respects the importance of Personal Use fisheries, however feels it is significant to point out why this special category was originally developed. In 1982, the Alaska legislature developed language to provide a special opportunity for Alaska residents to harvest salmon when surplus fish stocks were available. Since this time, Personal Use fisheries have evolved into an important part of the Alaskan lifestyle affording residents reasonable opportunity to supplement food they buy at the store with locally harvested seafood. CDFU does not believe that Personal Use fisheries should be managed with any degree of priority over Alaska’s long established and economically significant Commercial and Sport fisheries. Commercial, Personal Use & Sports fisheries need to share in the conservation burden to make sure our fisheries are sustainable into the future.

Just as overfishing is detrimental to salmon runs, overcrowding river systems with too large an escapement is equally damaging and it is important that managers have all the tools necessary to ensure a balanced system. Implementing HB18 only serves to take away one of the tools that managers need to do their jobs: utilizing Commercial harvest data from early season fishery openers to assess run strength and timing. There are more than 80 personal use fisheries across Alaska. Passage of this bill will force ADFG to revise management plans on an individualized basis for each

of these fisheries. This will take time. This will cost money. Who is going to foot the bill?

No user group, with the exception of Subsistence, deserves a priority listing per the Alaska Constitution. Both Commercial and Sport fisheries are economically significant to Alaska. These fisheries create jobs. They stimulate Alaska's economy. They bring small communities to life, and support thousands of families across the State. Legislative intervention is unnecessary and only serves to disrupt well-established and effective fishery management systems that are already in place."

As a CDFU member, commercial fisherman and Alaska resident, I couldn't agree more with these statements.

Sincerely,
Lauren Padawer
Area E Commercial Fisherman
F/V Canvasback

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Lauren Padawer
office: PO Box 394, Cordova, AK 99574
phone/fax: 907.424.4695
cell: 314.853.8751
email: lauren.padawer@gmail.com

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: Opposition to HB 18

From: Bill Bailey [<mailto:fvshiloh@crsalaska.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 1:38 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: Opposition to HB 18

Dear Representative Paul Seaton, I am writing you this letter to show my opposition to HB 18. I don't believe that Personal Use fisheries should be managed with any preference over our Subsistence, Sport, or Commercial fisheries. When there is a shortage of fish, we all need to work to sustain the resource. Personal Use fisheries, unlike Sport and Commercial fisheries, do not bring economic benefit to the State of Alaska. The only priority access to the resource, should be Subsistence Fisheries, per the Alaska Constitution. I feel that we have a well-established management plan that is working now. I am a lifelong (67 years) resident, sport, personal use, commercial, and subsistence fisherman. I also am a Co-Owner of Copper River Seafoods, in Cordova Alaska. I would hope that you will speak out in opposition of HB 18.

Thank You Sir,

Bill Bailey

Bill Bailey III

Owner / Operations

Director of Value Added Products

300 Cannery Row

Cordova, AK 99574

Ph: 907-424-3721 Fax: 907-424-7435

Cell: 907-229-7923

bbailey@CopperRiverSeafood.com

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From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: House Bill No. 18

From: dblakej40@aol.com [<mailto:dblakej40@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 7:06 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: House Bill No. 18

Chairman Sean and Committee Members:

I am e-mailing this to you with concern that this kind of legislation would disrupt a working system of management that is in place and working for the good of all users. All users should be held accountable to conservation of any fisheries stock and share in that conservation.

All users share in the surplus when stocks are healthy and all users (with exception of subsistence users) should share in conservation when the stocks are in troubled times. Fisheries managers do a good job of sustainability management and need not have one more burden placed upon them in what is actually an allocation issue not a stock issue.

Sincerely
David Blake
Cordova AK

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: HB 18

From: Bob Martinson [<mailto:ramphoto99654@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 6:54 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: HB 18

Dear Rep. Seaton please share this with those concerned,

HB 18 is a cheap way for a legislator to try and satisfy his constituency and does damage to the long-established Board of Fish authority to manage all fisheries. Management of all fisheries is absolutely necessary to sustain our salmon runs. The personal use fishery was established to offer fish to the Alaskan population ONLY in times of over-escapement into the river systems. It would be a disaster to allow the massive fleet of personal use fishermen to harvest salmon in a river system that is under concern of not making established escapement goals. This bill has been introduced for several years now, by Rep. Stolze to satisfy just a few people in his constituency with no concern for the sport or commercial fishermen who live in his district and across the state.

Thank you for your time and concern of this tremendously important resource.
Bob Martinson, lifelong fisherman, and former chair of CDFU's Gillnet division.

Bob Martinson
RAM Photography
(928)537-3953
ramphoto99654@yahoo.com
<http://www.bobmartinson.photoshelter.com/>

From: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: FW: HB 18

-----Original Message-----

From: William Lindow [<mailto:williamlindow@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 9:38 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: HB 18

Representative Seaton

I want you to know I am opposed to HB 18 Personal Use Fishery Priority. I am a 35 year veteran commercial fisherman. I began fishing with my father in Cook Inlet in 1971, and on my own in Prince William Sound in 1978.

I see no valid justification for a priority for personal use. The category was created for residents to take advantage of times when surplus fish stocks were available. I believe that commercial, sport and personal use fisheries should share proportionally in the burden of fishery conservation.

I urge you to vote no on HB 18.

Respectfully,
William Lindow
P. O. Box 1612
Cordova, AK 99574