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House Bill 36

“An Act exempting certain federal agencies or military services firing or using munitions on active ranges from prior authorization requirements of the Department of Environmental Conservation”

House Bill 36 amends Alaska’s Waste Management and Disposal Authorization (AS 46.03.100(e)) such that the use of military ranges can occur in accordance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Additionally, HB 36 clarifies that all military services, such as the U.S. Coast Guard, conducting training activities on an active range, would be exempt from regulation unless otherwise regulated under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

This amendment is important because current state law could be interpreted to restrict the use of Alaska military ranges in a way not required by federal law. Without the amendment, Alaska’s military bases could be at risk of closure because of the operational constraints placed on military ranges.

HB 36 is supported by DMVA, DEC, and the Region 10 United States Air Force Regional Environmental Coordinator Office.

I appreciate the committee’s consideration for HB 36 and request your support.