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Mr. Chairman, thank you for this opportunity to speak with you.

~~I come to you with an open heart, a strong mind and hopefully a persuasive voice.~~ I am here to speak against the passage of HB77.

I come to you on behalf of my family and all the people who hunt, fish and gather food from this great land we call Alaska. Most importantly, I come on behalf of my grandson, Huck Daugherty, who is 4 years old and who at his tender age has already gone out with his parents and uncles to harvest salmon taller than he is and prawns bigger than his own hands, for him there is a magic in that; and in that magic lies an honest reality which must be protected in perpetuity. And **you** have the responsibility to protect our lands, streams and oceans.

Please look to our Alaska Constitution when making your decision on voting for HB 77. It states in Article 8 section 3

*Titled: Common Use*

*Wherever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use.*

*It explains in the Citizen Guide of the Alaska Constitution and I quote:*

*This section enshrines in the Alaska Constitution the common law doctrine that natural resources must be managed by the state as a **public trust** for the benefit of the people as a whole, rather than for the benefit of the government, corporations, or private persons.*

Who will HB 77 be protecting and representing, will it be protecting the common use clause of our constitution and the rights of the citizens of Alaska or does it protect a corporation which has it's own special interest not consistent with that of preserving the tender balance of the streams and waterways where our food arises from?

Please vote against the passage of this bill.

Thank you for hearing me with your open hearts and strong minds.