



Curyung Tribal Council
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April 1, 2016

Good Afternoon,

Many stakeholders identified some of their concerns with SB 163 in a Press Conference held last week to which Lt. Governor Mallott provided a statement of response indicating that the Governor's office would take these concerns seriously in formulating policy to protect fish. However, today SB 163 is being pushed through the Senate Resources Committee for passage.

We feel that SB 163 would restrict public involvement and limit our ability to protect fish by:

Only allowing "Alaska Residents"-defined as registered voters-to nominate waters as Outstanding National Resource Waters, and disallowing Alaska Tribes this ability;

The three applications for nominating waters as Outstanding National Resource Waters on the table now were all submitted by Tribes of Alaska and/or Tribal Entities and under SB 163 will not be allowed to be adjudicated;

SB 163 adds more "hoops" that will need to be navigated before an application can be processed;

SB 163 will require that those navigating through these "hoops" and all expenses related to an application must be borne by the applicant, to include any state staff time.

It is not a fair and balanced process when we have to pay more, a \$1000 application fee, to apply to protect water quality than those who discharge pay to pollute it.

We implore Governor Walker to make good on his word to involve tribes in policy making and practice a fish first policy. Let's work together to improve or totally ditch SB 163.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dorothy B. Larson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dorothy B. Larson
Tribal Administrator