

3-3-17

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Senate Bill 56

I am writing to urge your support for Senate Bill 56, which will ensure that Alaskans selling or using heavy equipment are adequately protected by manufacturers' warranties or when required by manufacturers to "update" equipment.

Alaska's remote locations, high shipping costs, transportation challenges, and harsh weather result in high costs for warranty and update services for a manufacturer's defective products, many of which are discounted or not reimbursed at all by the manufacturers who require them. Our Alaska businesses have to absorb expenses for shipping, transportation, and labor that should be paid by the companies that manufacture defective products, provide warranties and require equipment updates..

Senate Bill 56 is modeled after existing state laws for warranties covering boats and ATVs. This bill extends that same protection to the equipment that keeps Alaska's construction, farm, forestry, and resource extraction businesses running. Fixing this problem is one small step the legislature can take to help Alaska's natural resource and construction businesses and the companies that supply and serve them as they try to stay in business and keep Alaskans employed in these challenging economic times.

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