

# Refrigeration & Food Equipment Inc.

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March 22, 2017

Representative Gary Knopp  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: House Bill 142

Dear Representative Knopp:

I would like to express my opposition to HB142 for its unintended costs for small business. By increasing the base amount we have to pay on our payrolls, it equates to a tax on small business because of the higher percentage employers have to pay.

Alaska is in a recession now and business is slowing, making it difficult to remain in business, let alone, expand. Thus it is not a time to add additional taxes to struggling businesses. Why not restructure the program to make it revenue neutral?

I also strongly oppose the Section 2 as it cedes future increases to a formula rather than being considered by the legislature. This prevents any discussion of whether it is prudent based on the status of the economy and how small business is affected by such changes.

Respectfully,

*Tim Agosti*

Tim Agosti  
President

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36894 Virginia Drive  
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CC: Representative Chris Tuck