

HB 138 Public Testimony as of March 11, 2020

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Elle Ahkivgak

From: Jinnel Choiniere <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 9:48 AM
To: Rep. John Lincoln; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Grier Hopkins; House Resources
Cc: Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Mike Prax
Subject: HB138: National Resource Water Designation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Co-Chair Lincoln, Co-Chair Tarr, Vice Chair Hopkins, and members of the House Resources Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce feels that the designation of Alaska's waters will have a major impact on the future of our state's resource development. The decision to allow or deny access and use of our land shouldn't be left to a very few unelected individuals. As our elected representatives, the legislature should take a lead role in making such important determinations.

We appreciate the thoughtful work your committee has done on HB138, and we hope a resolution of this issue will be put into law this session. It still has a long way to go through the process. Please move this bill along on its journey.

Respectfully,

Jinnel Choiniere, on behalf of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce



JINNEL CHOINIERE
ADVOCACY & COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
[REDACTED] Fairbanks, AK 99701

www.fairbankschamber.org | jinnel@fairbankschamber.org

connect with us!  

CC: Interior Delegation Legislators

Elle Ahkivgak

From: James Mackovjak [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:37 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: I Urge You to Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I have lived in Alaska for more than 50 years. I was in the seafood business and understand very well the value and importance of clean water. Truly, clean water is among Alaska's most important resources.

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
James Mackovjak
[REDACTED]

GUSTAVUS, AK 99826
United States
99826

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Charlie Bower [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:36 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: I Urge You to Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Charlie Bower

[REDACTED]
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Maureen Knutsen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:58 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: I Urge You to Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I am a long-time resident of Naknek who has been opposing destruction of salmon-bearing streams in Bristol Bay since 2006. With increasing impacts of climate change on our air and waters, protection of these resources becomes even more critical.

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Maureen Knutsen

[REDACTED]
Alaska Peninsula Hwy., AK 99633
United States
99633

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Carolyn Weishahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: I Urge You to Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear House Representatives,

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Carolyn Weishahn
[REDACTED]
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Autumn Simons [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: I Urge You to Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear House Representatives,

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Autumn Simons

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801
United States
99801

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Jared Green [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: I Urge You to Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Jared Green

[REDACTED]
Sitka, AK 99835
United States
99835

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Arthur Bloom [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:36 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Listen to the Public - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you oppose HB 138. This bill is designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the way to protect the exceptional waters of our state. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible.

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Arthur Bloom

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801
United States
99801

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Johana Goerner [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:57 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Listen to the Public - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Johana Goerner

[REDACTED]
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Samuel McBeen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Listen to the Public - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Samuel McBeen

[REDACTED]
Tenakee Springs, AK 99841
United States
99841

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Märit Carlson-Van Dort [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 1:05 PM
To: House Resources
Cc: Rep. Chuck Kopp
Subject: NANA Letter of Support for HB 138
Attachments: NANA HB 138 Support Letter.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon Co-chairs Representative Lincoln and Representative Tarr,

Please find attached a letter from NANA Regional Corporation in support of HB 138 – National Resource Waters Designation. If you have any questions or need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,



Märit Carlson-Van Dort | Senior Director of External Affairs
[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99501
Direct [REDACTED]



March 6, 2020

Representative John Lincoln, Co-Chair
Representative Geran Tarr, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 102
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Support of HB 138 National Resource Water Designation

Dear Representative Lincoln and Representative Tarr,

On behalf of NANA Regional Corporation, Inc. (NANA), I am writing to express support of HB 138, "An Act requiring the designation of state water as Outstanding National Resource Water to occur in statute, relating to management of outstanding national resource water of the Department of Environmental Conservation; and providing for an effective date."

NANA is an Alaska Native corporation formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) and is owned by more than 14,500 shareholders. NANA holds title to approximately 2.2 million acres of land in the northwest Arctic and has a long history of stewardship of our lands and responsible development of our resources.

Through the antidegradation policy under the Clean Water Act developed by the Environmental Protection Agency, established a three-tiered structure intended to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. The most stringent and protective tier known as "Tier 3", applies to waters designated as Outstanding Natural Resource Waters and prohibits any water quality degradation beyond baseline conditions resulting from any new or existing activities. For many of our shareholders the effects could be as far reaching as eliminating two-stroke outboard engines for use in subsistence activities, or limiting the ability of wastewater discharge from a village.

In addition, a Tier 3 waterbody designation has the broad effect of also limiting land-based activities and use of adjacent lands. Appropriately, the responsibility of land and natural resource use designations rests with the legislature as set forth by the Alaska Constitution. Any extraordinary waterbody designations, such as an ONRW that could have such significant cultural, social and economic effects should similarly be evaluated and determined by the legislature and set forth in statute.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wayne Westlake".

Wayne Westlake

President & CEO

Cc: Representative Chuck Kopp

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Colin Bogucki [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

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Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Colin Bogucki

[REDACTED]
Eagle River, AK 99577
United States
99577

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Judy Macnak [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Judy Macnak

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801
United States
99801

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Ty Hewitt [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:36 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Ty Hewitt

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99508
United States
99508

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Jill Wittenbrader [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:36 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you,
Jill Wittenbrader

[REDACTED]
Kodiak, AK 99615
United States
99615

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Rich Tolles [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you,
Rich Tolles

[REDACTED]
HAINES, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Tyler Henegan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:38 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Tyler Henegan

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99507
United States
99507

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Jami Campbell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:59 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

Please protect the waters of the Chilkat Valley.

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Jami Campbell

[REDACTED]
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: John S. Sonin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 1:00 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible for citizens to be assured of its purity. Meanwhile, as it now is, DEC already routinely issues permits with minimal stringency for polluters to sully our waters... in that they can do so with much less onerous effort than is necessary for the people who rely on its cleanliness need do to maintain the water's virtue! H.B. 138 can only complicate further, this process.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
John S. Sonin

[REDACTED]
Douglas, AK 99824-5059
United States
99824

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Zephyr Sincerny [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Zephyr Sincerny

[REDACTED]
Haines
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: clay frick [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
clay frick

[REDACTED]
haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Ken Zafren [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:37 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

Please oppose HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Ken Zafren

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99507
United States
99507

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Zach LaPerriere [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Zach LaPerriere

[REDACTED]
Sitka, AK 99835
United States
99835

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Margo Waring [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:36 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Margo Waring

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801
United States
99801

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Dan Schultz [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:57 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Dan Schultz

[REDACTED]
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Michele Cornelius [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:57 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Michele Cornelius

[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK
United States
99826

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Mario Benassi [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:57 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the exceptional waters on which our ecosystems, health, and economies depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to designate Tier 3 waters and replace a science-based determination with a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a new committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible. Meanwhile DEC routinely issues permits to pollute our waters.

Not only does this bill take away our right to clean water and fisheries, it would require that the nominator cover the costs. This means that our communities, many of which already face economic hardships, would have less ability to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democratic and anti-Alaskan.

Alaskans want clean water. The vast majority of comments and testimony have opposed HB 138. All of the Tribes and Tribal entities that have commented have opposed the bill. It should not be easier to pollute water than it is to protect it!

I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
Mario Benassi

[REDACTED]
Haines, AK 99827
United States
99827

Elle Ahkivgak

From: Oliver Price [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 4:55 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Resources Committee,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

A Tier 3 designation is the only way for Alaskans to protect the waters on which we all depend. Currently, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to review Tier 3 nominations from Alaskan residents and designate a Tier 3 Water. HB 138 would remove authority from DEC to protect Alaskan waters through a science-based Tier 3 designation and make it a multi-step political process. If this bill passes, a Tier 3 water nomination would have to go through a 7-person committee appointed by the governor and then be passed by the legislature as law (which the governor can veto), making it nearly impossible.

Not only does this bill take away our right to protect clean water and fisheries, but it would require that the nominator cover all the costs of a nomination. This would mean that those facing the most difficult economic hardships would have the least access to protect their waterways. HB 138 is anti-democracy and anti-Alaskan.

I urge you to oppose HB 138.

Thanks

Elle Ahkivgak

From: David Lesh [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: RE: Comment - Oppose HB 138!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear House Representatives,

I'm writing to ask that you join me in opposing HB 138. This bill strips Alaskans of the right to protect our waterways and our communities by creating an onerous political process designed to deny a Tier 3 water designation.

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I urge you to listen to the public that you represent and oppose HB 138.

Thank you,
David Lesh

[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826
United States
99826