

Joe G. Hardenbrook

From: Nick M. Oliveira <noliveira@hdlalaska.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 7:53 AM
To: House Transportation
Subject: HB 104 - Motor Fuel Tax

Dear House of Representatives Transportation Committee,

I want to voice my support for HB 104 to increase the motor fuel tax in order to ensure usable, maintained roads.

Although I am conservative and don't often support tax increases, I believe this tax is a necessary component to help Alaska today and in the future. As the son of a DOT&PF M&O Foreman, I was able to witness the amount of effort my father had to put into his job to ensure that the roads were maintained to a good standard. He continually had to do more with less and he did a great job of doing that, but this is not a sustainable model. DOT&PF M&O budgets have been cut for many years and is now to the point that maintenance stations are being closed and road safety is being compromised due to reduced maintenance. Federal funding is not available to M&O like it is for Capital Improvement Projects. Additionally, the motor fuel tax has not had an increase in 50 years, yet we have seen inflation over those years.

I believe that HB 104 is a great starting point to correct more fuel efficient vehicles and the increased costs for maintenance due to inflation. Alaska will still be one of the states with a low Motor Fuel Tax even with the proposed tax increase and it will provide sustainability for our roadway system. Since this is a true user tax, the increased revenue should go directly to the DOT&PF M&O for maintenance of our highways. This will be beneficial today, but will also provide better funding for my kids and grandkids.

I strongly urge you to support HB 104.

Nick M. Oliveira, PE, PTOE
Senior Civil Engineer



3335 Arctic Blvd, Suite 100 | Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Office 907-564-2120 | Direct 907-564-2136 | cell 907-382-7656
noliveira@hdlalaska.com | www.HDLAlaska.com

"Provide responsible infrastructure solutions by engaging clients, empowering employees, and exceeding expectations."