



February 12, 2025

Juneau Nordic Ski Club  
P.O. Box 21262  
Juneau, Alaska 99802  
[www.jnski.org](http://www.jnski.org)

Dear Honorable Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

On behalf of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC), I write to express our 501c3 organization's strong support for the passage of HB50. This bill would allow the JNSC to operate a fundraiser, the 'Snow Classic', for the purpose of additional financial support for our youth programs. Currently the JNSC raises more than \$30,000 annually to support our youth skiers, but our sources are strained with the ever-increasing cost of equipment, insurance, travel, and the many other costs associated with operating a ski program. The passage of HB50 is an essential complement to other fundraising efforts.

The JNSC is dedicated to promoting the sport of cross-country skiing and fostering community connections through outdoor recreation. Our youth programs offer opportunities for local students to engage in healthy, challenging age-appropriate activities while building life skills such as teamwork, perseverance, and discipline. The High School Ski Team has developed exceptional athletes who have gone on to represent Alaska in regional and state competitions.

Fundraising is vital in providing financial support to our athletes, ensuring that all have the opportunity to participate. Many youth sports programs Alaska not connected by road are presented with significant financial challenges and conduct community-based fundraising to support the higher cost of travel, equipment, and coaching. HB50 legislation is an essential fundraising tool for the continued success and growth of the youth ski programs that include elementary, middle, and high school levels.

Your passage of HB50 will add to the JNSC financial tools that support the local cross-country ski programs. We urge you to vote yes on HB50.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. Please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Frankie Pillifant, President, Juneau Nordic Ski Club  
907-209-1960 cell.  
[frankiepillifant@gmail.com](mailto:frankiepillifant@gmail.com)



## Haines Huts and Trails

Nate Arrants

Executive Director

[nate@haineshuts.org](mailto:nate@haineshuts.org) - (907) 302-6050

P.O. Box 501, Haines, AK 99827

Honorable Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

On behalf of Haines Huts and Trails (HHT), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding public access to outdoor recreation in the Chilkat Valley, I write to express our strong support for the passage of HB50. This bill would allow HHT, the Juneau Nordic Ski Club, and other organizations to operate a fundraiser, the 'Snow Classic', for the purpose of additional financial support for our youth programs and winter grooming operations. This legislation is critical to enhancing the sustainability and accessibility of outdoor recreation opportunities for youth in our region.

HHT works to maintain and improve a network of groomed winter trails for nordic skiing, fat biking, and snowshoeing. These efforts support local residents and visitors alike, promoting outdoor education, community well-being, and economic opportunities through responsible recreation and tourism. Both the Haines and Klukwan schools use our winter trails for outdoor youth education, which is an essential outlet for students during our long Alaskan winters.

The passage of HB50 would provide another outlet to support organizations like ours, ensuring that we can continue to offer safe and affordable outdoor experiences. Many rural and off-road-system communities in Alaska, like Haines, face unique financial challenges in maintaining outdoor infrastructure, and this legislation would provide a critical funding mechanism to help bridge the gap.

We urge you to vote yes on HB50 and support the continued growth of outdoor recreation opportunities in Alaska. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nate Arrants

Executive Director

Haines Huts and Trails