



Abigail Williams  
Louie's Douglas Inn  
915 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Douglas, AK 99824

February 2, 2018

Dear Representative Chris Tuck,

My name is Abby Williams, I own a small business here in Juneau and have been operating successfully for the last 4 years. I am writing this letter in support of House Bill 142. As a third generation Alaskan, choosing to live and raise my family here, I have a vested interest in my state and my fellow Alaskans.

I strongly support increasing the maximum weekly unemployment insurance benefit rate. In times when our fellow Alaskans are not able to work, and in a state so very expensive to live, it is our responsibility to support them. It's our responsibility as Alaskans, to keep our fellow Alaskans in this state, until they are able to get back out into the workforce once again.

The positive impact this will bring to our state, in supporting and retaining our workforce, far outweighs the very small cost employers will incur.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*A. Williams*  
Abby Williams

## Kendra Kloster

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**From:** sabrina88smile <sabrina88smile@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 03, 2018 1:13 AM  
**To:** Rep. Chris Tuck  
**Subject:** HB142

Im in favor for the HB142 ,Because my job is seasonal I am in school as in apprentice.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

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DAVE REAVES  
BUSINESS MANAGER • FINANCIAL SECRETARY

KNUTE ANDERSON  
PRESIDENT



February 2, 2018

To: Chair and members of House Finance Committee

Re: HB 142 Unemployment Compensation Benefits

Honorable committee members:

First of all, thank you for the opportunity for public testimony on this bill.

I am writing this letter in support of HB 142 as it has been far too long since our Alaska unemployment benefit amounts have seen an increase.

Without this increase our members are not able to remain here in the state awaiting their next job call. Journeymen journey to where the work is booming, and when leaving Alaska it is much more difficult to return. This loss of workers who travel south affects not just IBEW membership but all trades as it creates a growing deficit of manpower statewide. Furthermore, many of these workers may not return for some time, if they return at all.

With this increase, we hope to retain a larger majority of our skilled workforce. We've invested more than just dollars over many years of training provided to our members and our workforce is vital to the Alaskan economy.

We urge you to vote in favor of this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration with this matter.

Respectfully,

Rodney Hesson  
Assistant Business Manager  
IBEW Local 1547  
Juneau office