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**From:** thea.whitehead@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Thea Whitehead  
<thea.whitehead@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2024 2:17 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Please oppose HB 169

Dear Alaska House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my concern for HB 169, the "bucket biology bill." Allowing anyone to apply for a permit to run a backyard hatchery starts us down a slippery slope for the health of Alaska's iconic wild salmon. Alaska has a history of taking careful approaches to hatcheries and should continue its oversight and management of any introduction of salmon to the natural environment. HB 169 jeopardizes struggling wild stocks because it does not take into account that our current hatchery oversight minimizes inbreeding and competition. This bill would allow unqualified individuals or corporations to raise hatchery salmon without scientific knowledge or training. The permitting system also does not allow adequate public input on permit distribution.

Our salmon fisheries need wild stocks protected and strengthened. Management should focus on maintaining healthy oceans and ensuring that we continue to have clean freshwater habitat that wild salmon need for spawning. Please oppose HB 169.

Sincerely,  
Thea Whitehead  
Wasilla, AK 99654-5602  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** marilyn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of marilyn t taylor  
<marilyn@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 28, 2024 5:44 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Please oppose HB 169

Dear Alaska House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my concern for HB 169, the "bucket biology bill." Allowing anyone to apply for a permit to run a backyard hatchery starts us down a slippery slope for the health of Alaska's iconic wild salmon. Alaska has a history of taking careful approaches to hatcheries and should continue its oversight and management of any introduction of salmon to the natural environment. HB 169 jeopardizes struggling wild stocks because it does not take into account that our current hatchery oversight minimizes inbreeding and competition. This bill would allow unqualified individuals or corporations to raise hatchery salmon without scientific knowledge or training. The permitting system also does not allow adequate public input on permit distribution.

Our salmon fisheries need wild stocks protected and strengthened. Management should focus on maintaining healthy oceans and ensuring that we continue to have clean freshwater habitat that wild salmon need for spawning. Please oppose HB 169.

Sincerely,  
marilyn t taylor  
Haines, AK 99827  
[REDACTED]