

Tuntutuliak Traditional Council  
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February 3, 2025

To Members of the Senate Resources Committee,  
We are writing this letter in support of Senate Bill 61 which creates a manufacturer funded system for collecting and recycling electronic devices. Tuntutuliak is on the Qinaq River, approximately 3 miles from its confluence with the Kuskokwim River and about 40 miles from the Bering Sea coast. It lies 40 miles southwest of Bethel and 440 miles west of Anchorage. Tuntutuliak is a traditional Yup'ik village with a fishing and subsistence lifestyle.

Everything goes to our landfill in our community. Including spent electronics and hazardous waste. Our landfill does not have a liner, or any kind of containment. Open burning occurs. Our landfill is close to town, the school, and water sources. Our health and environment are impacted. It is very expensive for us to ship out electronics. It can cost \$9000 or more to ship out a 20' connex of electronics and more on top of that for recycling fees. Electronics pile up and accumulate in our community and at our landfill every year so it is a continual problem for us. Our IGAP funding is spread very thin and we don't have enough to pay for the backhaul of electronics and other wastes each year. This is a burden for our community.

We support Senate Bill 61 and we want to see it passed. Many other states have Product Stewardship in the US and we are essentially paying for that, so we should also have it in Alaska too. Senate Bill 61 would help rural Alaska communities like Tuntutuliak financially afford safe disposal/recycling of electronics. We need this in our state.

Sincerely,

Tuntutuliak Traditional Council

