



International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL 302 • Washington • Alaska • Idaho • AFL-CIO

Daren Konopaski, *Business Manager & General Vice President*

April 10, 2018

House Fisheries
Submitted via email

Dear Representatives of House Fisheries Committee:

The Operating Engineers, Local 302 are writing this letter as a statement of opposition to HB 199. Local 302 represents over three thousand Operating Engineers in Alaska, mostly in the construction industry. With Construction being the 3rd largest industry in the State, we feel this bill would only add costs and delays for work already scheduled to start. In some cases, projects may even be terminated altogether at a time when the economy needs all the support it can get.

While Local 302 supports the responsible development of this great State, we feel this bill goes too far to fix a problem that doesn't exist. We feel that the State already has a sound structure for their permitting process and Fish habitat is already protected. Infrastructure improvement and development is crucial for the State as a whole and our membership depends on the work for their livelihood.

In summary, please do not support this legislation as it would further pose an even greater threat to our Alaskan economy.

Sincerely,

Corey Baxter
Operating Engineers
Local 302

Sean Jeffries, *President* • Jason Alward, *Vice President*

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