

From: simon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 7:31 AM
To: House Resources <House.Resources@akleg.gov>
Cc: Thatcher Brouwer <Thatcher.Brouwer@akleg.gov>
Subject: Letter in Support

As someone who enjoys living in a beautiful place, I am writing in support of HB 288.

Right now there are cases in the courts from California to New York against oil companies for their role in climate change - something that is displacing and affecting Alaskan citizens *today*. At least these places are willing to acknowledge the role of oil extraction in this. Tax these companies - who rake in billions in profit every single year - and use those taxes to prepare Alaska for its future in a changed world.

To reach a balanced budget, you have to either cut spending or increase income. Past legislatures have done their best to cut spending, but it's been made clear that the public has had enough of them. If the legislature doesn't have the political will to create an income tax, that money has to come from somewhere. Oil companies are sitting on an over-production of oil, and use this over production to keep the price of oil low, evading the lower taxes. This is a disastrous policy for our environment, and a lower tax rate for lower prices per barrel only encourages this.

Keep in mind that the age of oil is - should be - behind us. Alaska should be looking for alternative sources of energy and income, and to continue to cater to and give incentive to oil production through tax cuts that encourage them to produce oil at lower costs... it's just absurd.

Thanks,
Simon
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