



“Working Together To Keep Our Coastal and Nelson Island Consortium Villages and Environment Clean...”

Chefnak Traditional Council  
Nelson Island Consortium  
P.O. Box 127  
Chefnak, Ak 99561  
PH: (907) 867-8316

Date: January 31, 2025

RE: SB 61

To Whom It May Concern,

The Chefnak Traditional Council is a federally recognized tribe located at the Yukon Kuskokwim region of coastal southwest Alaska. We have a population of 517 people with a medium household income of \$47,500 with a total of 90 households. Chefnak is only accessible by air or barge, and there is no road system.

The Chefnak Traditional Council is writing this support letter for Senate Bill 61 (SB161) and the creation of a system that will help our tribal community deal with the growing problem of electronic waste. Our tribal community has an unlined Class III landfill, so we have been trying to find ways to remove electronic waste materials from the landfill and backhaul them to a designated place for proper recycling. We are staying vigilant of what goes into our landfill because we rely on subsistence cultural food. Over the past years, we have been collecting, storing, and applying for funds to backhaul (electronic waste to Seattle, WA by barge and it is expensive to do so. Electronic waste does not belong in rural Alaska as it accumulates annually and relying of federal funds to backhaul them is not a sustainable way to recycle them properly. We did apply and are awarded an EPA Solid Waste Infrastructure Recycling (SWIFR) grant to backhaul materials for 3-years but is not a sustainable way to continue applying for funds especially when those funds are exhausted at end of its grant year. Therefore, the Chefnak Traditional Council supports Senate Bill175 and the creation of establishing manufacturers to take care of the end of the life of e-waste.

Alaska needs product stewardship and SB 175. Do not let electronic waste accumulate on rural Alaska's unlined landfills. Please help us find a solution on solid waste management for electronic waste and let us keep Alaska beautifully pristine by passing this bill!

Sincerely,

Desiree Dock, NIC Coordinator





January 31, 2025

Honorable members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I am writing this letter to affirm the Copper River Native Association Tribal Health Consortium's (CRNA) support for Senate Bill 61. SB 61 introduces the practice of product stewardship to electronic devices sold in Alaska and creates a manufacturer funded system for collecting and recycling electronic devices. This is really needed in Alaska. Landfills in our communities are unlined and electronics end up in them. Our communities are concerned about contaminants from electronics such as lead, mercury, and cadmium ending up in our land and waterways. The financial burden of transporting electronics for safe recycling/disposal is placed on our communities. A Product Stewardship program in Alaska would reduce that burden. Many other states already have Product Stewardship and it makes sense to have it in Alaska.

CRNA is located in the beautiful Copper River Basin, home of our people, the Ahtna. We are approximately 150 miles east of Anchorage in a region encompassing approximately 23,000 square miles. We deliver a variety of programs and services that promote the wellness of the people who call the Copper River Basin home. We support SB 61 and would like to see it passed – it would help our communities and communities across Alaska.

Sincerely,

*Sarah Daszkiewicz*

Sarah Daszkiewicz  
Environmental Coordinator  
Tribal Community Services  
Copper River Native Association