

April 12, 2010



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Rep. Craig Johnson, Co-Chair
Rep. Mark Neuman, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
State Capitol (MS 3101)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: HB 74 - Alaska Coastal Management Plan (ACMP) needs study – not changes

Dear Representative Johnson and Representative Neuman,

I am writing to thank you both for the on-going analysis the House Resources Committee has given to House Bill 74.

I am also in favor of forming the proposed stakeholder task force that would study the concerns about the existing Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) and the proposed changes in HB 74. Drastic changes at this point would not be prudent. We will lose jobs and important resource development opportunities if we change the ACMP at this time. Making changes, this quickly, will rob our economy of far-seeing, long-term business planning opportunities. We cannot afford to make any false steps when the economy is this flat. Making changes to the ACMP at this time will likely turn out to be an economic disaster.

I urge you to take the time needed to study these changes. Please table this bill and appoint a stakeholders' task force that can evaluate each change. Then, next session, we can have a truly educated and inclusive opportunity to revisit changes on the vital ACMP.

Sincerely,

Richard Faulkner
President

cc: Senate Finance Committee, B. Stedman, Chairman