

Konrad Jackson

From: Christine Higgins <smile55@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 2:18 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson; Konrad Jackson
Cc: Rep. Lora Reinbold; Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. Charisse Millett; Rep.Dan.Sadler@akleg.gov;
Rep. Andy Josephson; tamie.k.wilson@gmail.com; Pete Higgins; Rep. Pete Higgins; Rep.
Tammie Wilson
Subject: HB 74 Please support this critical bill

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Representative Olsen and all Legislators on the Finance committee,

Please support HB 74. Interior Alaskans need lower energy costs. **This is critical.** Many areas of our state have enjoyed low energy costs for decades while Interior residents suffer with exorbitant costs. **We need help and we ask you as our State Leaders to step up and hear our cry for help.** Your support for HB 74 will begin the steps needed for relief.

If you choose not to support this bill, then we will need to know WHY. We will need to know how to plan for our future. We will need to know how to heat our homes, schools and businesses. The elderly in our area will need to know how to stretch their limited and often fixed income.

PLEASE.. have the courage to support this bill for Interior Alaskans. The time is *now* and I ask you to step up to the mark for Interior Alaskans and support HB 74.

I thank you for your service to our State and I ask you to remember that while you were elected in your districts, you represent **ALL** Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Christine Higgins
District 5 (Chena Ridge)
Fairbanks Alaska
907-978-7578

Konrad Jackson

From: Cedar Cussins <cedarcussins@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 10:55 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson; Konrad Jackson; Rep. Mike Chenault; Tyra Smith-MacKinnon; Representative_Bob_Herron@legis.state.ak.us; Rob Earl; Rep. Charisse Millett; Jeff Turner; Rep. Lora Reinbold; Robin Sahnaw; Rep. Dan Saddler; Kim Skipper; Rep. Andy Josephson
Subject: My Family Does Not Support HB 112

Hello Members of the Labor and Commerce Committee,

I am writing to say that my family does not support HB 112, an attempt to repeal the film tax incentives.

My husband and I own Gecko Services LLC. Two years ago, we were a small snow removal company. Then, my husband was lucky enough to get a job working on Big Miracle.

Big Miracle changed everything for us. With the money he made renting equipment and contracting to that one film, my husband was able to pay cash for a mini-excavator, a dump truck, an equipment trailer, and a skid-steer. Those four pieces of equipment catapulted him into being self-employed year-round. Our business is now thriving! Last year, our gross receipts doubled and we hired our first employees! This year, we are on track to break the record we set last year!

Film tax incentives and the movies they bring up here are good for our economy. They diversify our economy and they give people like me and my husband opportunities that we would not have otherwise.

It seems silly to think that one movie could change a person's life. Big Miracle changed our lives. I strongly support anything that encourages more projects like Big Miracle to come to Alaska.

Thank you,

Cedar Cussins
Co-Owner
Gecko Services LLC
Anchorage, AK

Konrad Jackson

From: Squikin <squikin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 7:31 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Subject: House bill 74

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello,

I'm a Fairbanks resident, and I support truckin natural gas to Fairbanks. We need to diversify our fuel options!

Thanks,
Amanda Mertes

Sent from my iPhone

Konrad Jackson

From: Carter Crawford <ccrawford@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 5:05 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Subject: House Bill 74

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Frankly there are so many proposals out there it is hard to know which is best. But I know we must do something and if Rep Higgins supports this LNG and gas distribution system that is good enough for me. Olease pass HB74

Konrad Jackson

From: Eric Chase <EricC@akintegrated.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 2:54 AM
To: House Labor and Commerce
Subject: HB#74

As a Fairbanks resident for over 20 years I have seen the dramatic increase in our home and business heating costs. These costs are having an adverse impact on peoples lives and business. The negative impact on our local economy will only grow. Building an LNG plant on the north slope and trucking it to Fairbanks is vital to the growth and well being of our local economy. Even with the eventual building of a Gas Pipeline thru Fairbanks the LNG plant will continue to be important to other Interior Communities in helping them control their energy costs. Pass HB#74!!!!

Eric P Chase
PO Box 84495
Fairbanks, AK 99708
Cell 907/699-7810

Sent from my iPad

Konrad Jackson

From: Harman's of Fairbanks <hrmnfbks@email.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 10:54 PM
To: Vivian Stiver
Cc: Konrad Jackson
Subject: HB74

Dear Members of the Senate and House Labor & Commerce Committee(s):

I am writing this email to express my concerns regarding the high energy costs in Fairbanks. Over the past five years, as a business owner it has been increasingly difficult to have and maintain a profitable business due to the increase cost of energy and fuel. Also, as a homeowner the cost of energy has impacted my family and we continue to look at ways to reduce costs and save money.

As many of you are aware most of the products are brought to Alaska via water ship or over the road. In the past five years, I have seen an increase in my freight pricing due to fuel surcharges. (These charges are averaging between 32.5 - 35%).

As with the price of fuel, I have also been affected with the energy costs at home and in my business. This is very alarming for myself as well as for the Fairbanks community and surrounding areas.

I have two businesses in Fairbanks and I have an average combined natural gas and electric bill in the winter months of \$8,000 - \$12,000/month. I know how it currently affects my businesses, home and community – but what about the rural communities? How much longer can they continue to pay the energy prices they are forced to pay?

Unfortunately, after speaking with the Anchorage/Wasilla market (with approximately the same size stores and equipment), I have learned that I am paying about 55% more than they currently are. Without a definite plan of action for Alaska and Fairbanks, in particular, to reduce the cost of energy and fuel. I will have to reevaluate how to cut costs, which could force me to close one of my businesses. That could eliminate approximately 30-35 jobs from Fairbanks.

Unfortunately as I look around our town I am beginning to see more empty buildings, I am sure that many business owners have been weighing their options and some may believe that having a business in Alaska is no longer economical and decided to migrate to the lower 48, where they will not be faced with the extreme energy prices and fuel prices that are currently facing our state.

I would encourage the Alaska Legislatures to move forward with the proposed LNG trucking; however, I would really like to see that the Alaska Legislatures take a step forward and investigate and invest in the natural gas pipeline to help provide a more economic stand towards helping villages, communities and our state with the extreme fuel and energy costs we are currently faced with.

Thank you for your time in this matter,

Marvin Jorgensen

1765 Jack Street Fairbanks, AK 99709

(907) 460-4068

Konrad Jackson

From: John Minder <JMinder@grtnw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 4:34 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Cc: Rep. Pete Higgins
Subject: HB 74

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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March 12th, 2013

Dr. Mr. Jackson:

I am the President /CEO of Great Northwest Inc. a heavy highway construction company based out of Fairbanks, Alaska. I am definitely in favor of the passing of the Liquid Natural Gas Production and distribution system. Fairbanks is in dire need of Natural Gas as the cost of heating oil continues to escalate. Please take my request under advisement. People are beginning to leave Fairbanks because of this issue. Thank you for your time on this matter. John Minder

Konrad Jackson

From: Judy Farnham <cranberry@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 7:38 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Subject: HB 74

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Representative Jackson,

It is so important to me to get the gas line to Fairbanks. I have a small 5 star rated log home which I added more insulation to in the ceiling this summer for \$5000 to help keep my costs down. I have my fuel on the 10 month basis and I pay \$375 Per month so I can survive on my retired teacher's salary. This leaves me little else after I pay water, mortgage, and electricity. With a physical disability I am working part time with kids, which I love. Any you can give will be greatly appreciated.

One question: please explain why Anchorage pays so little compared to us in a situation like this. I feel that legislators simply don't care since you are living on high salaries.

Judy Farnham

Konrad Jackson

From: Julie Duquette <julie@slaydenplumbing.biz>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 5:01 PM
To: House Labor and Commerce
Cc: Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Tammie Wilson
Subject: HB74 - Testimony

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to support HB#74 and encourage the legislators to approve this bill by April 14th.

I have lived in Fairbanks since the early 60's. I attended school, married and raised my family in Fairbanks. I work at Slayden Plumbing & Heating where we employ approx 100 employees, of which 60 live in the Fairbanks area. Fairbanks has always struggled with the high costs of living. Food, Gas and Electric have always been a huge issue for families to afford. In the past 10 years, heating fuel has skyrocketed, making it our leading issue in maintaining a home and living in the interior. You see it through out the community, lack of development for new businesses, struggling small business to survive and long time Alaskans selling their homes and leaving. I am very concerned for our community and Alaska.

Last fall a business owner in North Pole shared with me that his business was barely surviving. I asked how that could be, when he owns a laundry mat. His response was that people had heft town or stopped doing their laundry. They had to buy heating fuel and food, so washing clothes was not their top priority. He laid off several long time employees and was running the business day to day operations himself. This has stuck in my mind ever since, choosing heating fuel or washing your clothes. This is just wrong.

Please work to pass HB#74 for our community and the future of ALASKA.

Julie Duquette

Slayden Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
1998 Richardson Highway
North Pole, AK 99705
T(907)488-3359
F(907)488-0363
C(907)322-0843

Konrad Jackson

From: Kathleen Dalton <pioneer@mosquitonet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 8:42 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson; Konrad Jackson
Cc: Rep. Pete Higgins; Rep. Lora Reinbold; Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. Bob Herron; Rep. Charisse Millett; Rep. Dan Saddler; Rep. Andy Josephson; Tammie Wilson
Subject: HB 74 - I support passage

Representative Olson:

I support HB 74. I am hopeful your committee will approve it, pass it on to its further assignments and then see that it is delivered to the full body for passage.

In 1954 the Territory of Alaska (Development Board) commissioned a study on gas to Fairbanks from the Gubik gas field east of Umiat.

That was 59 years ago, and I am still waiting for North Slope gas.

Currently natural gas is used at Prudhoe. Alyeska Pipeline fuels its plants there with natural gas. As a matter of fact, natural gas is pumped south to Pump Station 4 just north of Atigun Pass. The people of Barrow have been using natural gas since 1965. And Cook Inlet people and South Central have had low cost natural gas since the late 1950's. It's about time Fairbanks got some lower cost fuel.

Kathleen (Mike) Dalton

pioneer@mosquitonet.com

Box 70681, Fairbanks, AK 99707

322-6733 cell

479-6733 home

Konrad Jackson

From: Matthew Raymond <matthew_d_raymond@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 9:58 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson
Cc: Konrad Jackson; Rep. Lora Reinbold; Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. Bob Herron; Rep. Charisse Millett; Rep. Dan Saddler; Rep. Andy Josephson; tammie.k.wilson@gmail.com; dentaldoc@alaska.net
Subject: Interior Gas

Legislators,

The interior needs a viable source of natural gas. As the cost of heating and electric bills continue to rise, it is quickly making the cost of living in Fairbanks unsustainable. I am a young professional with and wife and 2 children and I love living in Fairbanks, however, with the rising cost of utilities I do not know how long we will be able to live here. My wife was born and raised in Fairbanks and it is sad that we have to make such choices when access to natural gas seems like it could be quickly accessed as it is in other parts of the state. It is a sad indicator that utilities are out of control when then begin to consume over 25% or greater of a families' income.

Another issue that must be addressed is how to distribute the gas. Fairbanks Natural Gas (FNG) currently has a monopoly on the existing infrastructure and it is charging prices to its customers that are absurd in relation to the price of natural gas in the rest of the U.S. This issue needs to be addressed because the consumer has absolutely no choice when it comes to buying natural gas from another source in Fairbanks.

As Alaskans, we have the resources to address this issue. I hope as our legislators that you have the collective appreciation for the situation we face here in the interior and help put natural gas on a real path to our city. Other parts of the state already benefit tremendously from this resource and I believe that Fairbanks deserves to share in this resource as well.

V/R

Matthew Raymond
District 4
C:(907)750-7037

Konrad Jackson

From: Harmanida@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 7:35 PM
To: Vivian.Striver@akleg.gov
Cc: Konrad Jackson
Subject: HB 74- LNG

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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My open letter to my Representative Tammie Wilson:

As one of your constituents in Fairbanks I can tell you that for me to be able to keep two business running in the city of Fairbanks we need some relief on the energy issues we have been facing. We have some of the highest costs in Alaska and around the nation. We not only have the high cost of heating oil and gas, but diesel for trucks or boats to bring our products to us to sell (over the water and over the road freight has been averaging five-percent increase per year for the last five years). My gas costs have soared in the last five years with the cost for one business being ten thousand dollars a month average for November, December, January, February and March (that is just gas cost). I also have the twenty-two cents per kilowatt hour for electric and one half the cost is for energy expenses(oil) and the water costs are on top of that so the utility costs are now a major item on my P & L. The stores in Anchorage (similar to my stores) have the same equipment and about the same building size same HVAC type units but their utility costs are sixty percent cheaper. There gas is cheaper and the electric is cheaper. My other store by the way averages eight thousand during those months.

If i can't find a way to reduce these costs i will be forced to close a business and try to increase business in the other location. That will cost 35 to 40 jobs in Fairbanks. Since, i cannot take a price increase for parts of the year or charge a service fee for high gas and oil or diesel prices i have to think of other ways to cut expenses. If you look at the empty building around Fairbanks you can see what high energy prices are doing, its closing down businesses. As, business close the people will not have jobs and so the people start to migrate to where there are jobs in the lower forty-eight. We need this gas trucking to tide us over until a pipeline can be put in that will benefit all of Alaska. Business costs in Fairbanks effect the Villages as the more it cost for products into Fairbanks the more the Villages that rely on Fairbanks for products have to pay for goods and services.

So it seems to me that lowering the energy costs in Fairbanks is the right thing to do for Alaska. Also, if they bring the pipe line down they can make cut outs at the Yukon River, Fairbanks, Valdez, and into Anchorage for the future since there is no guaranty that they will find gas in the cook inlet or another region for a longer term supply, than the North slope has already.

Thanks for taking the time to read, Ralph Harman concerned business owner and resident of Fairbanks.

1012 Esro Rd, Fairbanks, Alaska 907 490 6696

Konrad Jackson

From: Randy Brand <RBrand@grtnw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 5:03 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Cc: Rep. Pete Higgins
Subject: HB 74

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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I would like to voice my support for this bill.



Randy Brand | Great Northwest, Inc. | www.grtnw.com

2975 Van Horn Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709

T: (907) 452-5617 **F:** (907) 456-7779 **C:** (907) 322-8898 **E:** RBrand@grtnw.com

Skype: RandyBrand



March 12, 2013

Honorable House Labor and Commerce Committee Members
Juneau, AK

RE: HB112

Dear Labor and Commerce Committee Members:

I am writing as a concerned Alaskan and as an Administrator with Alaska Crew Training, Inc. Over 150 Alaskan's have already come through our training programs with the hope of finding work in Alaska's growing film industry – and many have.

We've seen several talented, motivated individuals enter the business within weeks of training and rapidly rise into department positions. It can happen and is happening daily, weekly, monthly. The state had the vision to support training. I'm asking that you as our elected representatives now have the vision to carry this incentive program through.

HB112 will essentially kill any future sustainable growth in Alaska's Film Industry. It abandons individuals and businesses with 100's, 1,000's, Millions invested thus far into schooling, equipment, and infrastructure and support services. None of them can afford to write off their capital.

Alaska makes the wrong kind of news as you wager with the future of the film tax incentive program. It makes for harmful headlines, that Producers (investors) see as a lack of stability in our film program. They will take their "Northern Exposures", "Big Miracles", and "Guardians" to other states, other countries, with stable film programs and Alaska's economy, businesses and jobs will take the hit. No projects will come north without film incentives... it's that simple and that critical that we have them in place.

I ask that you also think of the ancillary investments in related industries, many that see a benefit from the film here - not just tourism related industries but Alaska's mining, fishing, retail, banking and communication corporations as they utilize those film tax credits as tax relief. With tax relief, companies are able to spend more on equipment and Alaskans, like those trainees in the photo attached.

I urge you to be mindful of them all when you review HB112 and consider the wake of your impact. Please act accordingly when you vote – many dollars, dreams and futures hang in the balance.

Thank you,

Bob Crockett
Program Administrator
Alaska Crew Training, Inc



March 9, 2013 Film Workshop Students



March 12, 2013

Rep. Bill Stoltze
State Capitol Room 515
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: HB112 Repeal Film Production Tax Credits

Dear Representative Stoltze:

My company, SprocketHeads, is on the front lines of Alaska's developing film industry. We work in the trenches in all phases of the feature films, from answering their first inquiry to Alaska to well after the production has wrapped.

We are currently consulting with numerous producers that are interested in bringing their projects to Alaska. After a substantial amount of work several of them have submitted their pre-qualification paperwork and plans are in motion. And, I understand that a sound stage for feature film production is in development!

Therefore, HB112 is of great concern to them, my company and our stable of Alaska-based crew and vendors.

One project of note is a military action series (already approved by DOD) that would give Alaska the economic infusion that the NetFlix series HOUSE OF CARDS gave Maryland.

Our great state is a hard sell to producers given Alaska is decades behind the other incentive states, so the industry up here is in its infancy. Motion picture producers still think of Alaska as a frozen frontier devoid of skilled labor and infrastructure, prohibitively expensive and far away.

But, because our film incentive program was signed into law until 2023, Alaska could at least boast a business climate that they could depend on. And, like other incentive states, given support from the public and private sectors, Alaska would build our industry and reap the rewards.

Just as a new restaurant can revitalize a neighborhood, Alaska's film incentive program is beginning to generate excitement and economic opportunity. And, after we have a few more films under our collective belt, Alaska would be the place to spend production dollars.

I respectfully ask that you give the film incentive program that was signed into law in 2012 a chance to prove itself as the valued economic stimulus that it will be.

Sincerely,

Carolyn K. Robinson





March 12, 2013

Representatives of the Labor & Commerce Committee Members,

My name is Toni Salazar and I work with Piksik, LLC Film Production Services in Alaska. I am an Office Administrator, Casting Assistant, Office PA, Production PA, as well as a NANA shareholder. I am married with four children.

I am originally from Noorvik, Alaska and currently living in Anchorage. I first started in the film industry by attending a Production Bootcamp 101 training in April 2011. I quit my job at the Native hospital of 4 years to help grow this industry, not knowing what was in the future. I held on and persevered through the trials and tribulations of uncertainty within the film industry.

I now have a full-time job with benefits and having worked on 30 plus productions I am committed and in it for the long haul. Three out of Four of my children are interested in and are also attending Film classes here in Anchorage. We have been in multiple productions including a feature film and an International German Fashion Ad Campaign as talent. This bill would jeopardize everyone involved; local talent, crew, vendors, and the future of my children's own dreams along with up and coming generations hoping to find film industry work right here in our own backyard.

I am NOT in support of HB112. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,
Toni Salazar & Family

Konrad Jackson

From: Mark Greer <markgreer8@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 1:58 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Subject: fbks natural gas

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Fairbanks is in dire need of natural gas. please pass this bill so we may survive as a city.

Mark Greer

9074521711

Sent from Marks iPad