

From: Wayne Jenkins
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 11:59 AM
Subject: Cruise Ship bill

Dear Alaska Senator,

Please vote and do all you can to protect Alaskan waters from the negative impacts of giant cruise ships. Yes, they are beneficial for our local economies and we need diversification of economic cash flow in our state. but we should not sacrifice the health of our resources to attain it. Only the state can set the parameters necessary for balancing income and negative environmental impacts and we should always err on the side of protection.

I am a new home/land owner from Georgia and I can tell you that most folks "outside" look to Alaska as our last chance to find the balance between development and environment, the Chamber of Commerce and the incredibly beautiful and intact ecosystems that Alaska still harbors, which is now lost to so much of the lower 48.

Cruise ships dump a lot of pollution into Alaskan waters. This should be minimized to the greatest extent possible. Already we have signs of a troubled and ailing Cook Inlet; the failing beluga population, non-returning King Salmon, dropping clam, shrimp and crab takes in various areas. And we know that pollution pressures will be increasing with the growth of Anchorage and it's inadequate sewage treatment facility plus increased oil and gas drilling in the inlet. And on top of all of our direct fouling of our own waters, which we are directly dependent on for many fishing and recreation jobs, we have no idea how global warming will play out.

To assume that we can pollute at a certain level and that mixing zones will manage it, with no negative impacts is like the smoker that only smokes half the cigarette. He will still die of cancer, it just may take a little longer. The solution to pollution is not dilution. The solution is to minimize the source and volume to the greatest extent possible, now.

In 2006 Alaskan's voted to tighten restrictions on Cruise ship dumping. Now, the legislature would ignore the will of the people and overturn that decision? How undemocratic.

The final lense that should be used in deciding legislation is cumulative affects on future generations. Ask yourself, is making very profitable companies less responsible for wastes generated in the making of that profit, a good thing for today's children who will inherit the problems we do not solve.

Thank you for your service to this great land. Wayne