

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Addressing: HOUSE BILL No. 338, Committee; Community and Regional Affairs

Subject of my testimony: municipal property tax exemption on the residence of a senior.

Today's Date: March 23, 2016

My Name: Michael W. Kliemann

My Address: 54210 Wilderness Lane  
(P.O. Box 15163)  
Fritz Creek, Alaska 99603

My Phone: 907-435-7246

Date of Hearing: 03/24/16

My statement:

To: Members of the House Community and Regional Affairs Committee:

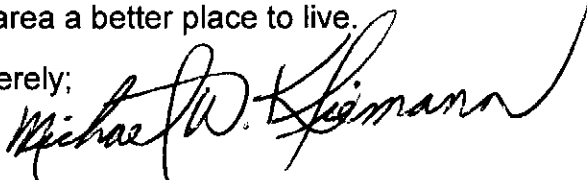
Ladies and Gentlemen; I, and my brother Mitchell J. Kliemann, bought 10 acres of undeveloped land from private owners in the Fritz Creek area east of Homer in 1983. Over a span of many, many years, we built two very nice, (and very small) "dry" cabins upon this land. We have paid all of our annual KPB property taxes in-full, and on-time during all of the past 33 years.

We intend to live upon this property for all of our remaining days. We have paid an average of just about 2,000.00 of property taxes to the borough each and every year during all of the years that we have owned this land. We have both been counting on the "Senior Property Tax Exemption", (we will both be 65 years old next year). Our incomes are, (and will continue to be) 6-8 thousand dollars per year.

If we have to continue to pay property taxes in the yearly amount described in the paragraph above for the rest of our lives, financial necessity would lead both of us to seek basic public assistance in order to survive here. This will be a first for me and my brother- we have never resorted to any type of public assistance. If we must sell our property because we cannot pay the taxes, we will have to apply for senior housing here in town, or face a probable homeless situation as old men.

Your House Bill 338 is a catastrophe for both of us and many of our neighbors. Please do not do this to us. I have spent so much time as an employee, and as a volunteer, trying to make this area a better place to live.

Sincerely;



Michael William Kliemann, and Mitchell James Kliemann, at 54210 Wilderness Lane, Fritz Creek, Alaska, on March, 23, 2016.