



40 Years Defending the Public Interest in Alaska

February 9, 2015

The Alaska State Legislature, House of Representatives
State Capital Room 106
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: House Bill 68

Dear State Affairs Committee,

Thank you for hearing HB 68, entitled the Paper Reduction Act. The Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AKPIRG) strongly supports the passage of this bill. Established in 1974, AKPIRG is a non-partisan, non-profit citizen-oriented statewide organization researching, educating and advocating on behalf of the public interest.

HB 68 proposes logical, efficient and cost-effective means of distributing state agency reports. Digitizing the documents rather than printing hard copies for every legislative office will save the state hundreds of thousands of dollars each fiscal year. In a time of serious budget shortfalls and hard decisions of where to cut state spending, HB 68 offers a simple solution that will not only save the state money, but will positively impact Alaskan citizens.

Digitizing the reports will enable citizens from across the state to simultaneously access the reports on the Alaska Online Public Notice System. Presenting the reports in an online format also ensures the documents can be easily searchable and archived in an organized manner for future reference.

AKPIRG is excited by this common sense, smart legislation that demonstrates there are opportunities for cutting excessive government spending while maintaining a strong commitment to the Alaskan public and the rights of each citizen to access state agency reports.

Sincerely,

Jessie Peterson
Executive Director
Alaska Public Interest Research Group
PO Box 101093
Anchorage, AK 99510