

**From:** [tasha.elizarde@gmail.com](mailto:tasha.elizarde@gmail.com)

**Subject:** HJR 9 Testimony, Tasha Elizarde (Juneau)

**Good afternoon,**

**My name is Tasha Elizarde and I am a high school senior from Juneau, submitting testimony supporting HJR9 on behalf of myself. I live in House District 33 (Rep. Kito) and Senate District P (Sen. Egan). I would like to start off by thanking you all for supporting HJR9. It is necessary that the U.S. government take the extra precautions needed to make sure our resources stay safe from outside economic excursions (e.g. transboundary mines) that will not benefit either the U.S. or the state of Alaska. Alaska's resources are undoubtedly vital to our state and its functions, and we need to make sure our resources are not hurt accidentally because Canada chooses to build a faulty mine. Canada has had problems with its projects before: in 2014, a dam from the Mt. Polley mine in British Columbia burst, releasing 6 billion gallons of waste into a nearby river. We do not want a similar accident to occur near Alaska, pushing waste into the rivers many Alaskan communities rely on for fishing. It's important our legislature take initiative now and show our Congress this is a problem that deserves to be addressed before it is too late.**

**Thank you again for supporting this resolution, in whatever capacity your office is supporting it. I hope to see the resolution pass the Alaska Legislature for our congressional delegation to see soon.**

**Tasha Elizarde**