

HB 138 Letters of Opposition

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From: [Emily Kane](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Subject: HB 138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:09:01 AM

Pease put me on record for strongly opposing this ridiculous bill.
What is more precious than then
health of our citizens and our Planet?
Shame on you for pandering to polluting corporate interests.
Dr Emily Kane
Juneau AK 99801

www.DrEmilyKane.com
www.naturopathic.org
www.primarydoctor.org

Be good to yourself :)

From: [jeff budd](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#)
Subject: House Bill138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:07:24 AM

Dear Representative Lincoln and Tarr, I am distressed by any act that would not protect our waters. More and more plastic is filling our oceans and streams - it is time to put a stop to this. My suggestion is send House Bill 138 to the Fisheries Committee and the Tribal Affairs Committee, as it will have a heavy impact on these stakeholders and possibly protect our water sources better. Thank you. Jeff Budd Sitka , AK

From: [Ms. Nelle](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. Grier Hopkins](#); [Rep. Sara Hannan](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#); [Rep. Chris Tuck](#); [Rep. David Talerico](#); [Rep. George Rauscher](#); [Rep. Sara Rasmussen](#)
Subject: Say NO to HB 138
Date: Sunday, April 28, 2019 9:16:04 AM

I understand that mining is a big part of the Alaska economy, but it should not come at putting any of our local waterways in potential peril. Accidents happen -- All.The.Time.

If the "National Resource Water Designation" bill (HB 138) introduced by Rep. Kopp passes, it would put the Chilkat River in Haines in a precarious position. The Chilkat has, for hundreds of years, been a source for pristine waters that provide wildlife and humans with an abundance of food. Any spoiling of the waters would likely take tens if not hundreds of years to reverse.

Several local tour companies responsibly guide thousands of guests each summer on the Chilkat so that too can look in awe at the natural beauty surrounding us. And partly because of the Chilkat River, the Haines Highway has a national designation from the Dept. of Transportation as a "Scenic Drive."

I am respectfully asking each of you to put this bill where it belongs: in the trash can.

Kind regards,
Nelle Jurgeleit-Greene



Haines, AK 99827

From: [Ryan Bunker](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Subject: Stop House Bill 138 please
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:04:39 AM

Dear John Lincoln,

Please stop the recently introduced House Bill 138 (HB 138), sponsored by Representative Kopp. Please show Alaska that you care about our ecosystem and way of life.

Sincerely,
Ryan Bunker

From: [Amy Roberts](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Subject: Tier 3 designation
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:07:10 AM

The Clean Water Act allows residents of Alaska to protect waters critical to their communities or culture from pollution under a **Tier 3 Designation**. HB 138 would require a Tier 3 nomination get passed as a law through the state legislature to exercise this right. The decision would be political rather than science-based and would make the approval process nearly impossible. Meanwhile, corporations only have to fill out a 6-page online form, through an administrative process managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation, to get permission to degrade our waters.

Corporations should not be granted rights denied to residents. **A Tier 3 designation process to protect waters should be no more onerous than the process to degrade our waters.**

Amy Roberts



From: [Bill Rotecki](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Subject: hb138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:44:42 AM

As a man who made his living fishing, this bill is an affront to my making a living, and looks like an intentional gutting of the Clean Waters Act.

I strongly oppose HB138
please do not pass this bill or anything like this

--

Bill Rotecki

office [REDACTED]

cell [REDACTED]

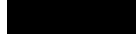
From: [Joan McBeen](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Subject: HR138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:48:25 AM

Dear Representative Lincoln

I oppose hr138 because protecting Alaska water should be based on science not on politics. It should not be any more difficult to get protection than it is to get permits for development.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Joan McBeen



Tenakee Springs, AK

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kendra Zamzow](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#)
Subject: Re HB138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:00:58 AM

Dear Representatives Lincoln and Tarr:
I oppose HB 138.

Alaska very likely has more water bodies that could be considered Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs), also called Tier 3 waters, than any other state. Our happy abundance should not be a reason to make nominations of these waters more difficult.

We are also a sparse population -- this is directly correlated with the abundance of high quality waters. As we grow -- more roads, railroads, housing, manufacturing and extractive industries -- the risks to the waters increases. Instead of handing over the rights of high protection for waters to legislators, the waters that deserve the highest protections -- even in the face of economic challenges -- should go to the agencies with a mission to protect waters and wildlife -- DEC, in conference with ADFG.

This is already allowed under Alaskan regulations. In July 2018, the EPA approved the process of allowing DEC to designate Tier 3 waters through the triennial review process; this is similar to Montana where I believe DEQ designated Tier 3 water bodies. In some states, waterways in wildlife refuges or other protected areas may be designated Tier 3.

As a scientist, I have more trust in a science-based decision making than political-decision making. The science around the benefits of a waterway may change some as the populations and landscape (with climate change) change, but the political view of the benefit of a water body will constantly flip around.

Please oppose HB138. Instead, request specific items that DEC should require for nomination prior to designating a water body. These should include the reason for designation (it may be cultural or historical and not necessarily based on water chemistry purity) and documentation to back up the reason. If the reason is that the water is pure and supports a diversity of fish, plant, and animal species, water chemistry documenting purity and data on biodiversity should be supplied. If it is for cultural reasons, cultural history should be provided.

Although I prefer the bill be dropped entirely, if it is to remain in play it should be referred to the Fisheries Committee and Tribal Affairs Committee, to balance the views of the House Resources Committee.

We are blessed with an abundance of pure, clear, productive, and cool waterways used for everything from transportation to supporting fish-eating birds. As more of the US loses freshwater habitat - due to drought, heat, human activity -- Alaska's becomes even more important. Even here in Alaska we are seeing some streams warm, as documented in the Susitna Valley. Identifying waters that will remain cool

and continue to provide habitat is a crucial scientific endeavor, not a political one. Scientists will not ignore the human needs of waterways for transportation, subsistence, and recreation, but consider them in recommendations.

Thank you,

Kendra Zamzow, PhD
Chickaloon, AK



From: [Thomas Ely](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Subject: HB 138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 9:57:16 AM

Representative Lincoln,

I oppose this bill as it turns a scientific decision into a political decision. Protecting our waters should be based on science not politics.

Sincerely,
Thomas Ely
Haines, AK

From: [Art Bloom](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Cc: Representative.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov
Subject: HB138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:33:27 AM

1. I am opposed to HB138 and would like to see it go to the Fisheries Committee and the Tribal Affairs Committee, as it will have a heavy impact on these stakeholders.
2. The Clean Water Act allows residents of Alaska to protect waters critical to their communities or culture from pollution under a **Tier 3 Designation**. HB 138 would require a Tier 3 nomination get passed as a law through the state legislature to exercise this right. The decision would be political rather than science-based and would make the approval process nearly impossible.

Sincerely,
Arthur Bloom



Juneau 99801

From: [Santa Claus](#)
To: [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. John Lincoln](#)
Cc: Sarah@seacc.org
Subject: Please OPPOSE HB 138 and FORWARD it to the Fisheries Committee and Tribal Affairs Committee
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:28:35 AM
Importance: High

Dear Representatives Tarr and Lincoln:

Please OPPOSE HB 138 and FORWARD it to the Fisheries Committee and Tribal Affairs Committee.

Note that I have signed SEACC's Tier 3 Petition that calls for equal processes for protecting and degrading water.

Thank you,

Santa

Santa Claus
PO Box 55122
North Pole, AK 99705
www.SantaClausNorthPoleAlaska.com

From: [Luann McVey](#)
To: [Rep. John Lincoln](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#)
Cc: [Rep. Sara Hannan](#); [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#); [Rep. Andi Story](#)
Subject: Written Testimony Regarding HB 138
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:41:48 AM

Dear Representative Lincoln and Representative Tarr,

As Co-Chairs of the House Resources Committee, I urge you to take a stand against HB 138. I understand that this bill would allow communities to nominate state waters for Tier 3 protections only through statutory means.

This bill would make a Tier 3 Clean Water decision a political rather than science-based process and would make the approval process nearly impossible for communities. In contrast, corporations would only be required to complete a short form, through an administrative process managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation, for permission to degrade our waters.

I oppose this bill and I urge you to do everything in your power to prevent its passage. Corporations should not be granted rights denied to residents. **A Tier 3 designation process to protect waters should be no more onerous than the process to degrade our waters.** . If it goes anywhere, please ensure it goes to the Fisheries Committee and the Tribal Affairs Committee, as it will have a heavy impact on these stakeholders.

Please prevent the passage of HB 138.

Sincerely,

Luann McVey



Douglas, Alaska 99824



VIA EMAIL ONLY

(Representative.John.Lincoln@akleg.gov
Representative.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov)

April 26, 2019

Representative John Lincoln, Co-Chair
Representative Geran Tarr, Co-Chair
Alaska House Resources Committee
Capital Building Room 124
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: House Bill 138 – Outstanding National Resource Waters

Dear Co-Chairs & Members of the Committee:

Please consider these brief comments on HB 138 behalf of Cook Inletkeeper and its more than 8000 members and supporters throughout Alaska.

Alaska boasts some of the last wild and pristine waterbodies in the world. Yet rather than protect these resources that make Alaska unique, we have witnessed time and again efforts to rollback protections for some of our most important water resources.

For example, the EPA recently announced it is moving ahead to approve a rule promulgated by the Frank Murkowski Administration and pushed forward by the Alaska mining industry to allow polluting mixing zones in salmon spawning habitat. Mixing zones embrace the long-discounted notion that dilution is the solution to pollution, and they have no place in the sensitive habitats encompassing our spawning areas.

The Alaska Miners Association and its member groups also spent millions of dollars this past year to stop Alaskans from updating our 60-year-old, one-sentence-long fish habitat protection law. Now, with large projects such as the Pebble and Donlin mines moving forward, Alaskans have no opportunity to know about, let alone comment on, permits that will impact or destroy our wild fish habitat.

House Resources Letter

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HB 138 is yet another effort to hamstring water quality protection for some of Alaska's most important water resources. So-called Tier 3 waters – also known as Outstanding National Resource Waters – are Alaska's most pristine waters, and the state of Alaska has dragged its feet for decades under the Clean Water Act protecting them.

By pushing Tier 3 nominations to the Legislature, rather than allowing the experts in ADEC to consider them, the practical effect of HB 138 will be to ensure Alaska does not protect its most important waters. The Alaska Legislature does not have the expertise, nor the time, to consider the complexities of Tier 3 nominations.

Not surprisingly, the Alaska Miners Association is paying lobbyist Kent Dawson \$60,000 this session just to work on this issue – because they do not want to see our most pristine waters protected.

As you deliberate on HB 138, I hope you will agree the interests of the Alaska Miners Association and its members stand in stark contrast to most Alaskans, who want to see Alaska's most precious waters – and the world-class fisheries they support - protected for current and future generations.

Don't let the Alaska Miners Association buy HB 138.

Yours for Cook Inlet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Shavelson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Bob Shavelson

Inletkeeper

Cc: (VIA EMAIL ONLY)

Representative.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov

Representative.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov

Representative.Ivy.Spohnholz@akleg.gov

Representative.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov

Representative.Dave.Talerico@akleg.gov

Representative.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov

Representative.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov