From: Daniella Ambrosino May

**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 12:30 PM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** Public Testimony HB 76--Please extend the state of emergency

## Hello AK Representatives,

I live in House District 14, and am represented by Ms. Merrick. I am contacting today in regards to HB76, and to urge you all to extend the state disaster declaration for the COVID 19 pandemic. Although the state of Alaska is making huge strides to return to normalcy, and I am very happy with the progress we have made on the vaccine roll out, the pandemic is still a global issue. We must continue to remain vigilant and proactive against this public health emergency. We are making excellent progress, and we should not obstruct that progress by moving backwards. As we have learned without a state of emergency Alaska will lose out on vital federal funding including monies for SNAP. Our state is in a budget crisis, and we cannot afford to turn down funds offered to us by the federal government. Continuing the disaster declaration will ensure that the state is able to remain proactive in fighting the COVID 19 pandemic, and secure the federal funding necessary to help our most vulnerable residents. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel, and with the disaster declaration we will be better equipped to work around any roadblocks that may appear in the remainder of 2021.

Thank you for your time, Daniella May

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Regards, Daniella N. Ambrosino May From: Penny Goodstein

**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 12:44 PM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** extension of COVID 19 disaster declaration HB76

PLEASE vote to extend the protections against Covid 19 in HB76.

We are not over this pandemic yet. All you have to do is read about the number of cases that the state legislature experienced in Juneau recently. Perhaps they trace back to one meeting that several elected officials and staff attended. Perhaps not. However they occurred, they demonstrate the contagion of this virus.

This is NOT the usual influenza. As a public health professional for 40 years, I understand that public health measures work. I also understand that when these measures work, it looks as if they were not needed. What diseases did we, the public health professionals, prevent? All that did not happen. These measures WORK. Please continue them.

Penny Goodstein, MPH retired Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) CSP (ret.) (Certified Safety Professional) From: Mirandah S <

**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 1:04 PM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** HB76 Written Public Testimony

Hello,

My name is Mirandah Smith. I live in Anchorage, district 25/M.

I am writing today in response to HB76. I fully support and would urge you to extend the emergency declaration for the state of Alaska. Covid is not over yet, and the long term economic devastation is only just beginning. Vaccinations are going out, and case numbers have lowered, but the fact is that the pandemic is still out there. Ignoring this issue will not make it go away, in fact it does just the opposite. Fighting covid-19 means being determined and vigilant. We must be pro-active and utilize all resources we have available. When the declaration ended, I was devastated, because it made me afraid for the outcome for our state. This declaration gives us access to tools that are so important to rebuilding our communities and our economy. I know we all want this to be over with, but we must fight through this until the end. We are doing so well with vaccinations, and I am so happy to see the light at the end of the tunnel. The work doesn't end before it's done. Please consider this. Please extend the emergency order.

Thank You, Mirandah Smith

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Sent from IPhone

From:

Hermon Morgan Monday, March 15, 2021 1:22 PM Sent:

House Finance To: Subject: Testimony on HB76

Do not sell out Alaska to outside interests please. Suprise everyone and vote your consience.

From: Linn McCabe

**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 2:31 PM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** Public Testimony: "NO" on HB76

Dear Members of House Finance Committee,

There is no need for the disaster declaration; the Governor has withdrawn the Disaster Declaration.

The Senate is working on bills that are needed for businesses in order to relax ordinances for them (without the declaration.)

It has been established that the federal aid does not need a declaration.

No declaration is needed for giving vaccinations.

Because all needed portions of the declaration are, or will shortly be covered, there is no need to reinstitute the declaration.

Thank you!

Linn McCabe Big Lake From: Donald Jones <

**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 3:46 PM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** HB 76 Written Testimony

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am providing written testimony on behalf of myself, Donald Jones. I reside at 4003 Resurrection Drive, Anchorage, AK 99504. I wish to be recorded as a NO on HB 76.

I am not in favor of HB 76, the disaster declaration bill that would continue COVID-19 powers for two very good reasons. First we have ample supply of the vaccine and are the first state to open the shots up to anyone over 16 years of age. Anyone living in Alaska can get the vaccine.

Second, the death toll has been a mear fraction of what we were told. The numbers do not lie: 302 out of 730,000 population is .04 of 1%. This is a far cry from the 11,000 dead that was predicted. It is time to return to normal operations and open our schools, churches, and businesses. Life must go on and the extension of the emergency order is needless self-aggrandizement.

So again, I encourage each of you to vote No and concentrate on opening our great state and getting our economy back on track.

Regards, Don Jones

Sent from DJ's IPhone

From: Pamela Samash

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 4:17 PM

**To:** House Finance **Subject:** No on HB76

Dear house finance members

Good afternoon and thank you for reading my testimony today 🔆

Regarding HB 76, Im writing (to be put on record), asking for this bill to die in your committee.

This bill includes federal money. Receiving federal money for this purpose comes with strings attached that lead to dependency.

When they hand over money, much of it is printed. Printing money causes the federal reserve note to lose its value therefore it will take more dollars to buy everyday things we are used to purchasing. The more we have to spend, the more we will want to get. Its a downward spiral.

The money sometimes comes with rules. The rules include shut downs and masks which are both forms of oppression and shutdowns cause businesses to lose money (I have discussed this personally with business owners in Fairbanks) and students to lose stability in education. Both of those events create again an atmosphere of dependency on more govt handouts and another downward spiral.

Taxes and fuel prices are rising. When fuel prices rise, everything goes up in Alaska since its all trucked or flown in, causing again more dependency. And as more money is handed out, taxes will increase to pay for it, (because nothing is for free), again causing more dependency on govt.

I hope I have been able to show my concerns in this email about why HB76 needs to be terminated. What we need now is freedom.

Freedom is the answer. Set Alaskans free to work, play, travel and do whatever it is we want to do.

Thank you again and have a blessed day © Pamela Samash

Nenana

From: Abby Bradley

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2:30 PM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** Hb76

## Hello,

My husband and I own a construction business and have been longtime residents of Talkeetna. I am also a nurse at mat Su regional Medical Center and have children that go to the schools. I feel that one of the major components that our state did well was to have testing for all arriving to Alaska at the airport, as well as free drive-through testing. I don't believe keeping testing at the airport would discourage anyone from traveling to the state for tourism. I believe it would only benefit us by giving more information.

I see many people in the valley choosing to ignore that there is a pandemic going on. I fear that these are the voices that are contributing to shutting testing down.

As a nurse it has been quite challenging to have to go to work and be at risk. I would hope the house could respect the risk we take going to work by doing everything they can to keep Covid numbers down and under control.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Abby Bradley

Sent from my iPhone