

Dear Judiciary Committee Members,

I strongly support passing SB23 to bring clarity to initiatives, helping to assure that future initiatives will have proper checks and balances and align with our constitution. I respectfully ask that the members of the committee pass SB23.

Regards,
Jim Hill
Sales Manager
All Pro Alaska

To Senate Judiciary Committee Members,
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB23. I do not support this bill for the two reasons that follow.

Since initiatives are created by citizens (whose voice must be heard in a democracy), the process must be allowed to proceed if a minor point is deemed unconstitutional. There are other ways to deal with that on the ballot.

Given any notice that a portion is unconstitutional, voters can be informed and still have the option of approving/disapproving the rest of the initiative.

I urge you to not support this bill. Voters need to have this voice.

Thank you.
Mary Corcoran
Delta Junction, AK

I support passage of SB23.

While I generally agree with having a ballot initiative process, I think the bar to initiating the process should be much higher. The process has been subverted by anti-development groups to disrupt the industries that drive Alaska's economy. The laws that result from ballot measures certainly have not been in the best interest of Alaskans; poorly written and detrimental. Ballot initiatives should be a last resort for the citizens to use in the event that the legislators simply are not doing the will of the people.

Greg Beischer

Dear Chair Holland and members of Senate Judiciary:

I am writing in support of SB 23, a bill related to initiative severability.

Over the 15 years I have personally seen the negative impacts of ballot measures on jobs and our economy in general, and I believe this legislation will help eliminate some of the flawed attempts to further hurt opportunities for Alaskans. It should not be the court's responsibility to edit flawed language put forward by those wishing to hurt our economy.

I urge you to pass SB 23 out of your committee and to support this bill through the legislative process. Thank you for your consideration of my support.

Sincerely,
Marleanna Hall

I am sending my support of SB 23 to make sure that the version of an initiative that is reviewed and approved by Alaskan who sign the initiative is the exact same language that is put on any ballots. If any language is found to be in error the entire initiative must be withdrawn.

Michael S. Ferris