

From: [Adam Hykes](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: SB235
Date: Friday, March 18, 2022 8:27:36 PM

Honorable Senate Finance Committee,

I applaud you for the language in this bill which exempts investments in the Alaska Permanent Fund and the Alaska Retirement Management Board. I have ownership in both of these financial bodies. The House version of this bill lacks such wording and therefore I cannot support it. Because of the foresight in SB235 to include such exemptions, I do not oppose it, but neither do I support it. I merely disagree with it, and I do so on the grounds that as well intended as it may be, it will not accomplish the goal for which it aims. Allow me to elaborate.

Splitting financial ties with Russia will not harm Vladimir Putin. It will harm the citizens of Russia. This bill, combined with the same effort in other states, and the efforts of large corporations doing the same on the national scale, threatens to collapse Russia's economy. This will not harm Putin. His pantry will not be bare. It will be the everyday common people of Russia who suffer because of an increasingly trendy Public Relations campaign which does not understand the farther reaching implications of what are essentially economic sanctions.

It is not our business to police the nations on the other side of the globe. We can disagree with the actions of Russia without getting involved. Our attempts to interfere in the affairs of nations an ocean apart will only cause the situation to degrade further. Why stick our noses where they don't belong? We can investigate our own biolabs in Ukraine to see if the threat which spurred this Russian invasion was in fact warranted, but it is not our place to dictate the actions of another G7 nation.

There is no threat of WW3 in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Ukraine is not a member of NATO. But if we continue to add to the antagonization of Russia, there very well could be WW3, because we inserted ourselves into the situation!

May I remind you that these same politicians on the national level who call for economic sanctions are the same politicians that told us we should invade the middle east over weapons of mass destruction which never existed. Their foreign policy advice is suicide! Do not follow these same lame duck politicians as they attempt to yet again drag this nation over the edge of a cliff. Don't be a stooge for them. Do better for Alaskans.

Respectfully,
-Adam & Kayla Hykes
(Homer, AK)