

HB156 Emailed Comments

<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Vicki Vermillion [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: Dear Alyse, This sounds very reasonable!!!! Take care and our best, Vicki</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Debra Lathrop [REDACTED] Community: Kodiak Message: I think this is long past due, thanks for taking the initiative and I will comment or send an email.</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: David McCasland [REDACTED] Community: Juneau Message: An income tax is the worst idea anyone could have. Great! tax the people who work the hardest. Awesome. GET RID OF THE PFD, do not tell me people depend on \$1000 a day, they have more kids to get more pfd.....tell me what problems that creates?? Tax the oil companies, tax Canadian mines ruining our resources, tax out of towners that come to work and leave. Can't do that? Change the law to make that possible? The state does NOTHING for me. Meth heads have more rights than I do. What a joke. when I want someone off my property. I trespass them MYSELF and have to bring my own piece of paper. Then the cops come after you trespass them, they go to jail for 30 minutes and the they let them out and do it again. I've never seen a penny of compensation from being broken in to, harassed or loss of business do to the substance issues we have. Why is this put on me? I went out to dinner last night. It was awesome watching the legislature's wine and dine, an income tax will definitely get them more of what they need.....</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Marla Statscewich [REDACTED] Community: Fairbanks Message: I fully support HB 156. We can't rely on oil money anymore and we need to generate income for our state. Those making more than \$200,000 can afford to donate their pfd towards taxes. Thank you for starting the conversation and getting the ball rolling. Marla/ Fairbanks Alaska Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Cecilia Preziose [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: WHAT BS, giving the PFD in one door and taking it out the other.....you think we are stupid?</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Heath Brown [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: Hell no. No more taxes!!!</p>

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Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Jessica Black

Community: Anchorage

Message: Are you insane?!?!?! NO NO NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Susan Clark

Community: Juneau

Message: I agree with you. Thank you for your courage to begin this conversation. Anything is better than a flat sales tax that really penalizes lower income people (and also impacts how cities handle their budget).



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My Love and Light, Joy and Laughter to you

... *~* .. *~* .. *~* .. *~* .. *~* ..

Susan R Clark

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: David J. Cushwa

Community: Anchorage

Message: Use the PFD for state spending. No income tax please.

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Susan Floughlin

Community: Anchorage

Message: I like your proposal!

Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: George Stadnicky

Community: Anchorage

Message: Cut the PFD and cut the budget. Government wastes money left and right on dumb ideas and projects!

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Brenda Dolma

Community: Homer

Message: Thank you for presenting HB 156

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: PERRY GREEN

Community: Anchorage

Message: Cut spending, no new taxes. "G"

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Glenn Cravez

Community: Anchorage

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Message: Thank you for introducing this proposal! Not easy in this place, but it's the right thing to do. Glenn Cravez.

PS - my email address has changed to [REDACTED]

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Joseph Miller alaskainvestments@gmail.com

Community: Anchorage

Message: This is the wrong way to take this state, you put a statewide sales tax, not an income tax. Did you not take any economics classes in college?

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: MaryLou Gerbi [REDACTED]

Community: Auke Bay

Message: Bravo! I hate income tax, but it's so necessary to get us out of this budget mess since everyone is afraid to lose popularity by cutting back or (gasp!) eliminating the PFD. We need to do both. Once people receive a gift, they figure they are entitled to that gift annually for life. The state can't sustain that kind of giveaway.

Mary Lou Gerbi

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: GEOFF KENNEDY [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Here's why I support the legislation:

1. It encourages personal responsibility. We should pay for the services we get, not develop an entitlement mentality that demands handouts. Jay Hammond was right in opposing the end of a state income tax. Thirteen years as an Alaska taxpayer didn't kill me.
2. As a Christian, I believe that the property I am listed as the "owner" of does not belong to me. It belongs to God; I am only the steward. Chapter 25 of Matthew's Gospel tells us that our salvation depends on how we treat the most vulnerable among us. I believe his teaching applies not only to individuals but also to societies.
3. Non-residents shouldn't continue getting free rides. They should pay for the services they get.
4. Rich people get more services than the rest of us who cannot afford handouts to politicians running for office. At least, they should pay for all the laws and regulations the politicians provide them.
5. In our US political system, people who live off their investments pay less in taxes than people who work for a living. I found that out in 1982 when my rental property made more money than I did.

GEOFF KENNEDY

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: William Bittner [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Alyse, Alaska has a non-needs based Bloated PFD. You want to impose an income tax? Enjoy your one term in office. Dismayed Voter

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Idamarie Piccard [REDACTED]

HB156 Emailed Comments

Community: Anchorage Message: I support an income tax; I don't support the tax be tied to the PFD IDAMARIE PICCARD
Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Cheryl Stromme [REDACTED] Community: Sitka Message: I know that I am not in your district, but I do support an income tax. It is about time that Alaskan's pay a state tax. I will be contacting the Sitka legislators also. Cheryl Stromme Sitka Sent from my iPad
Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Gregory Carr [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: Alyse, I am very very proud of your efforts. I applaud your bravery. Alaskans have been worrying for too long about how much free money they will receive. It's time we all join together and help pay for the things we want and need in our state. Thank you for this wonderful idea, Gregory Carr
Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Jennifer Ransom [REDACTED] Community: Seward Message: Would this tax go to support schools directly? Or into the general fund? Sent from my iPhone
Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Bill Cotton [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: Good legislation. Bill Cotton
Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Shelly Boyer-Wood [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: Sounds reasonable to me! Finally. Shelly
Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Kevin Cassity [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: Hi Alyse, I support HB 156. I agree on the need for fiscally responsibility in state government, and I agree with taxing those who can best afford to pay. Many Alaskans, especially those running small businesses like mine, are either gone or still trying to recover from the economic devastation of the lockdowns. At the same time, we're living through the greatest transfer of wealth from the middle class to the elites in history according to Newsweek article last year by Carol Roth. I appreciate that the proposed bill takes the needs

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of the most hard hit Alaskans into account while still instituting a necessary income tax to run state government. Thanks, Kevin

Kevin Cassity

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Becky Judd

Community: Anchorage

Message: Alyse I so appreciate your courage to introduce an income tax to address our Education and critical state services.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Becky Judd

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Knw

Community: Anchorage

Message: No New Tax! Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: JUDITH RITENBURGH

Community: Trapper Creek

Message: I support this as long as there are no loopholes or ways the wealthy can get away without paying their fair share.

AND A VERY BIG AND—THE PFD MUST BE PUT BACK TO WHAT IT WAS WHEN MY PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS AND THE OTHER ALASKAN VOTERS VOTED TO KEEP GOVERNMENT FROM STEALING THE OIL ROYALTIES EARNED FROM PUMPING OUR OIL FROM OUR LAND.

And

Protected by our constitution that it will never be desecrated again by lazy greedy legislators who don't know how to pass a fair budget for our state.

Taking childrens' savings and elders only income is sinful!

Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Joann Flora

Community: Anchorage

Message: If there's no other way, I would support the wealthy paying a share of taxes.

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Ronnie Rosenberg

Community: Fairbanks

Message: I really like HB 156. Ronnie Rosenberg

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Chad Morse

Community: Anchorage

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Message: Go for it! It is reasonable, practical, simple, and would be least burdensome while still raising revenue. You are right; it is overdue. And I would support this over a state sales tax any day! Sales taxes are too regressive, in my opinion.

Thanks for all you do! Chad Morse

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Lela Ryterski [REDACTED]

Community: Homer

Message: That doesn't sound too bad. I don't make that much, so it won't affect me. So, I'm ok with it. Lilly Ryterski

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Margaret Lund [REDACTED]

Community: Fairbanks

Message: Hello, Although I am not in your district, I appreciate the legislative information you provide (apparently, my elected representative does not provide this information to me). You asked about input for the income tax proposal. It sounds reasonable to me, so I am in favor of it.

Thank you,

Margaret Lund

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Donald Poling [REDACTED]

Community: Haines

Message: Thank you for taking action on this issue. I really like your take on taxing the PFD as well.

Don Poling

Haines, AK

Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Linda Kruger [REDACTED]

Community: Juneau

Message: YES!!! 100% behind this effort. We are with you all the way.

Looking forward to supporting this...for how ever long it takes!

Linda Kruger

Juneau AK

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Alisa Vickrey [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: I love this common sense taxation idea. Thank you for representing us!

Gratitude and Blessings,

Alisa Vickrey, PA-C

[REDACTED]

"Yesterday has gone, tomorrow has yet to come. We have only today, let us begin." - Mother Teresa

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<p>Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos.</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Ranna Fekrat [REDACTED] Community: Anchorage Message: I hope you can get people to agree to some kind of taxes. A very small sales tax will also be good.</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Barbara Craver [REDACTED] Community: Juneau Message: I support the Income Tax Bill. I think this is an excellent first step to weaning us off of oil revenues and funding government for the basic services we all support: education, public safety, infrastructure (including ferries), social services, utilities, state enforcement of safety issues, civil rights, and care of those unable to do so for themselves. I support a state budget funded for the long term. Not one that fluctuates with the price of oil and our overly favorable tax schemes with our resource extraction. Thank you for presenting this bill. Barbara Craver</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Linda Kruger [REDACTED] Community: Juneau AK Message: YES!!! 100% behind this effort. We are with you all the way. Looking forward to supporting this...for however long it takes to get it passed!</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Kenneth Dixon Community: Anchorage Message: Hi, I am not opposed to a state tax. I feel that not having a tax now-a-days forces the state into questionable "deals" with the extraction industry. Kenneth Dixon [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Tam Agosti-Gisler Community: Anchorage Message: Alyse - I like this revenue idea, however, is it possible to dedicate it all to education?</p>
<p>Date: April 13, 2023 Name: Teri Penn Community: Anchorage Message: I have always felt when the PFD was started (J. Hammond) we never should have done away with taxes. I am in favor of a tax. ~Teri</p>

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Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Kristiann Maclean

Community: Anchorage

Message: Rep Galvin,

First of all, thank you for your service.

HB 156 sounds reasonable to me, so I support it. I understand we as a society need to start paying for services, and this small tax on those of us who earn a high income is a good place to start. It's about as painless a "tax" as you can get.

Thank you,

Kristiann Maclean

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Karin Halpin

Community: Anchorage

Message: Thank you for putting forward the idea of a tax...I've been asking for that for some years. I want to live in a state that has affordable quality pre-k-college education, easy access to affordable health care, good transportation (roads and ferry) to name a few and am willing to pay to help make this possible.

Karin Halpin

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Jess Connaheer

Community: Eagle River

Message: I'm in strong agreement with HB156. Depending on oil revenues-especially when conservatives try their hardest to give those tax monies *back* to the oil companies- and tourism dollars to fund our entire state government is ludicrous. So many people argue that "we've gotten by this long without income taxes, so we should be able to continue without them". I have to wonder if those same people utilize modern dentistry, digital technology, grocery delivery, or trash pickup services. None of which were available back in Alaska's "Wild West" days. As a civilization grows and advances, so does its need for infrastructure. Our roads take money to maintain. Our children take money to educate. If we want to continue to grow as a state, instead of suffering the increasing brain drain that's plagued us for decades, we NEED to start planning for and investing in our future. An income tax that would be minuscule for most of us and place an equal share of the burden on the highest earners, seems like the best place to start.

I'm an army wife, navy mom, and have been a frequent volunteer in our schools over the 11 years my child was a student in ASD. I'm well aware of the challenges our schools face and sincerely hope this bill passes and returns desperately needed funding to them.

Jess Connaheer

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Tia-Debra Lathrop

Community: Kodiak

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Hi Alyse, I want to tell you that this is an equivocal and fair way to help address our state budget. I applaud your initiative, its such a simple and no nonsense way to enable all of us to contribute, the \$20 for any working person under the \$200K cap is similar to the school tax in days of old, the price of a few latte's only. Those who make more than \$200K could well afford little more than \$2K/year. We should all invest in the future of our state fiscal health according to ability. Good luck. I will also send a comment to my local legislators.

Tia-debra lathrop, kodiak

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Mary Calmes

Community: Fairbanks

Message: I think this is a great idea. Hoping the rest of the legislators will have the courage and foresight to vote for it.

I much favor an income tax to a sales tax. It is more equitable and makes more sense that those who earn more should pay more for the greater good.

Mary

Mary Calmes

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Darby Evans

Community: Anchorage

Message: NO INCOME TAX. Typical far left democrat, it will hurt the lower income and the minimum wage earners. You will say it won't , but it will. You will try and show a cut out for them , but you will be lying. You say it will be a minimum 20.00 dollars , next year it will be 40.00 dollars. Typical democrat tax , tax , tax , tax .

You visited me at my front door to get elected, YOU LIED! You said you did not represent a personal income tax. YOU LIED! Repeal this bill, be honest for once.

Darby Evans

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Tom Brooks

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hello Rep. Galvin:

Thanks for your introduction of an income tax. I agree that it is the best way to finance state government. I see the benefits as:

- High end earners would largely have their state tax bill offset by the PFD.
- Lower earners would have a greater PFD benefit. By funding state services from other sources, more will remain for distribution as a PFD.
- Out of state workers would be taxed. This would contribute significant revenues. It would also promote in-state employment.
- The Federal tax burden on PFDs would be reduced, more money would stay in state.

While this probably isn't going anywhere this session, laying the groundwork for the discussion is important. I would suggest that the middle two points are the most compelling. I also think the state should look at a statewide property tax to cover police, education, and transportation costs. The intent is to correct the inequities in the current system. For

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example, the Unorganized Borough currently pays nothing towards schools? Similarly, many Boroughs rely on the Troopers for policing, with no offsetting state revenue generation. The property tax could be offset to the extent that property taxpayers already contribute to police, education, and transportation. A fairly high property tax exemption would help prevent a regressive impact.

Thanks for being in Juneau, we need your leadership and ideas.

Tom Brooks
[REDACTED]

Anchorage

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Nicole Schmidt

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hello,

My name is Nicole and I am an Anchorage resident with family on the Kenai. I just wanted to send a quick note of support for HB156. Alaska needs a tax to balance our budget and I appreciate your commitment to an income tax vs a sales tax. Combined with reductions in spending, I think this could get us back on the road to economic prosperity.

Thank you! I know introducing a tax bill can't always be popular, but as an Alaskan I do really support this.

Best,

Nicole
[REDACTED]

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Cindy Gilder

Community: Anchorage

Message: Alyse

I want to let you know that both my husband and I are highly supportive of an income tax. I also don't mind paying my fare share (although under the current structure of your bill it doesn't sound like I would be taxed). I recognize that schools, roads, basic government services cost money AND that Alaska will only be a desirable place to live if we have basic services and have "not paved over paradise to put up a parking lot". As I am sure you already know, 70% of the fishing industry does not live in Alaska and 20% of the oil industry doesn't live here.

An income tax really is the fairest way to pay for services.

Thank you for your work on this.

Cindy Gilder

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Luci Beach

Community: Fairbanks

Message: It's time to enact this plan.

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Larry Johnson

Community: Fairbanks

HB156 Emailed Comments

Message: Sounds wonderful. A first step to beginning to support critical State services. I especially like the way it addresses the needless waste of PFDs for rich Alaskans, without directly attacking aPFD for every Alaskan. I wish any funds gained could directly address our terrible shortage for education funding, but I realize any progress at this point is very important.

Larry Johnson
Fairbanks

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Paul Winkel

Community: Haines

Message: Alaska needs more revenue. There are many critical needs. This is a step but only the first step in the right direction.

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Maria and Per Bjorn-Roli

Community: Anchorage

Message: Alyse, why is it that you and others in government look for additional revenue through taxation as a way to show fiscal discipline? Most households and businesses that we have been involved in cut expenses as the first way to raise revenue. You ought to look for wasteful and unnecessary spending in state government. There is much that citizens of the state can do without, and those saving would generate moneys for necessary and needy state projects. Any kind of tax should be your last resort. In this time with inflation, increased gas prices and big uncertainties facing American and Alaska citizens do not warrant any form of state income tax.

Sincerely, Maria and Per Bjorn-Roli, long time Alaskans

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Anna Brosin

Community: Anchorage

Message: Thank you Rep Galvin for introducing an income tax bill to capture revenue and balance the budget. It's worth having the discussion when the fiscal shortfall continues to drag on and on each year with no end in sight!

I much prefer an income tax to a sales tax that would harm western Alaskans, the poor, and those who need the PFD more so than others. It's a balancing mechanism and, like you mentioned, may increase government engagement beyond the oil lobbyists.

Thank you for taking a step in the right path.

Anna

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Allison Kelley

Community: Anchorage

Message: It's not perfect, but it gets one thing right: not hammering lower income people and focusing on high earners. If I understand correctly, it applies to all income earned in Alaska over \$200K. Will it apply to non-US citizens working in AK, e.g., Slope, Red Dog, Pogo, etc. foreign workers earning on US soil?

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Barbara L Bigelow

Community: Ketchikan

Message: Alyse: I like the structure of HB156, and I support this measure! It's time we do this as a state.

Barbara L Bigelow (she/her)

[REDACTED]

Living within the ancestral lands of the Taant'a Kwáan and Sanyaa Kwáan Tlingit

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Barbara Braley

Community: Fairbanks

Message: I have been hoping for an income tax. My family will be paying the 2% but I want the state to be able to pay for education so I'm glad to pay it.

It's about time,

Barbara Braley

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Karin Holser

Community: Homer

Message: I am not in your voting area, but I support you idea 100% - I was against doing away with our income tax back in the 80's. I hope you are able to get folks to understand this has to be done sooner than later.

Thanks Karin

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Lolita Brache

Community: Homer

Message: Dear Representative Galvin,

HB 156 is a great beginning towards instituting an income tax in Alaska. I think it is long past due! I think it is overly generous; it could have started at a lower base level, such as \$100,000. But I recognize the fact that this is a compromise given how many people insist we don't need an income tax.

We absolutely need to each pay our share of the costs of maintaining infrastructure, PreK - university education, vocational training, mental health, police, and troopers...the list of our responsibilities is long. Of course, it is also clear we need to diversify the sources of income as we cannot continue to expect gas and oil to foot all the bills. In fact, we should be vigorously moving away from this dependency.

Thank you for your efforts on this issue. I have cc'd Rep. Vance, as she "represents" me, and I want to make sure she knows my opinion on this.

Lolita Brache

Homer

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Rock DeAugustine

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hi, Regarding an income tax: it is far more equitable than a sales tax, but:

The best mix would be a 20% tax on a FULL PFD, a seasonal sales tax, and if constitutionally legal a non-resident income tax, or income tax you are mentioning plus a non-resident income tax included. Just the 20% tax on the full PFD alone would bring in at least \$500,000,000, and people would not feel like certain legislators are thieves who are stealing and then passing the money onto their personal or family non-profit. This should also be addressed as there are many legislators who are benefiting from money being directly appropriated and sent to nonprofits that their spouses or themselves are principles in.

The seasonal sales tax would hit visitors, Alaskans could plan around it, especially rural Alaskans who buy in bulk.

Finally, the income tax especially a non-resident income tax with capture the 40% of slope or oil workers who just fly in and out and bring their wealth with them, I'm probably a corresponding percentage of fishermen and miners. This is something that should have been acted long ago, right now Alaska is still essentially a colony.

Warm regards, Rock DeAugustine

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Callie Conerton

Community: Juneau

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

I support this bill with a \$20 income tax and more for those who have a larger income.

Thank you so supporting Alaskans!

Callie

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Doug Robbins

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hi Alyse!

Thank you for having the courage to propose an income tax! Alaska needs revenue, and an income tax is the fairest way to provide it.

It seems to me that the proposed tax is too low and does not generate enough income. Our own obligation would be relatively small, thanks to our charitable contributions.

During the Walker administration, Wendy analyzed various formulas, and concluded that 14% of Alaskan federal income taxes paid would generate a significant boost to state revenue (perhaps ~\$750 million, if I remember correctly). I favor this simpler formula, rather than any income threshold, for the sake of simplicity as well as more revenue. The Federal income tax is already a progressive tax.

This, combined with a 2% sales tax (capturing some money from 2.3 million tourists) would make our state budget more secure.

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The state needs a better way of retaining value from individuals and businesses making money from Alaska. It isn't right that many jobs and businesses in Alaska simply send the money out of state. Outside interests monetize our fish, oil, minerals, scenery and wildlife, and much of the income generated doesn't help support the state. That needs to change. Anyone monetizing or visiting Alaska needs to help support Alaska.

The last decade has proved that our current revenue streams are insufficient to run the state across the entire business cycle. The earnest efforts of legislators and administrations have not solved the problem. A spending cap will not solve the problem - we need a revenue floor.

Cutting the PFD is a disproportionate, regressive tax on the poorest Alaskans. For rural Alaskans living a traditional subsistence lifestyle, the PFD is the necessary part of ensuring food security.

Wendy is drafting her own letter - she will have real numbers to discuss!
We like the idea that everyone should have some tax obligation - it helps to have skin in the game.


Regards,
Doug Robbins

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Ron Matviyak

Community: Anchorage

Message: I do favor return to an income tax in Alaska. It is time we started paying for our government again. HB 156 reflects a real need that has been ignored too long.

Ron Matviyak


Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Beth Leban

Community: Juneau

Message: Thank you for moving forward with a reasonable state income tax bill that embraces fairness while addressing the economic challenges in the state.

Beth Leban


Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Joan Stassel

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Rep Galvin,

I am so glad you will be proposing an income tax on Alaskan earned money! Your plan initially sounds like a great start. My opinion is that the income level should be lower like 100k rather than 200k.

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It is definitely time to have Alaskans contribute for all the benefits and services they receive. The state cannot afford to keep giving away services, etc.!

Your proposal seems very reasonable and very much needed!! Thank you! 👍😊

Sincerely,

Joan Stassel

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Annabelle Alvite

Community: Kotzebue

Message: Hi Alyse, At first, I thought, NO! In Kotzebue, we pay 6% city sales tax. Each village with very low or no income residents pay city sales tax. An extra 2%? No. Then I read the \$200k criteria, and thought, OK. I'm on board. The \$20 per person, I don't get that, and why \$20 is the magic number. But am OK with it.

AND here's the big deal--marketing. \$20 is nothing, esp since we CAN pay it out of the PFD or choose to have it auto deducted. That needs to be MARKETED. That fact AND WHY WE NEED A STATE INCOME TAX. If not, people will resent it. The GOP will make up all kinds of scary stories of how it will start with 2% then go UP. Income limit would be \$200K, then go DOWN, so even the lower income folks would be subject to be taxed. And that could happen but we need to tell OUR story better and louder.

YOU/WE like the GOP need to be BETTER at TELLING STORIES. TRUE stories. WHY should I pay \$20? What's IN IT FOR ME? (I don't even know, and I try to keep up with some news.) Your average person in the village or even the 3 big cities want to keep their \$20. They need to hear WHY they need to give it to the state. Government is corrupt, bloated, and not to be trusted. Why should we give them more of our money, even if our AGI is \$201,000? Again, what's in it for us--the SNAP recipient to CEO millionaire? If that story isn't told continuously, consistently, and massively, it lowers support for HB 156. Best of luck.

Be well,

Annabelle

"Be the change you want to see."

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Shannon Wileman

Community: Anchorage

Message: Honestly, it is already wrong that anyone has to pay taxes as it is. We have worked hard for our money and when people find out what our salaries have been in the last 20+ years they are surprised at how little we have. We have no cabin or lake property, no fancy cars, no boat or fun toys. Trust me, that is not by choice but despite our good salaries we have already been heavily taxed and don't have much extra. In addition, since my husband and I worked in the private sector we have had to save our money for our future on our own. No pers,ters, or any money thrown at us just for completing a mediocre 20 year career in one place. We actually have had to save a large amount of our salaries for our retirement. You are wanting to tax us even more to support all the state retirees that have no need to save for anything. It takes a lot for government workers to be fired. They are protected by unions,

HB156 Emailed Comments

even if they are poor employees. However, out there in the private sector, employees can actually be fired for no reason at all and there is nothing legally that can be done. In conclusion, find a way to cut your spending instead of demanding more money from we the people. Not everyone is a protected government employee that doesn't have to worry about losing their job or saving for the future.

Shannon

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Dennis Marks

Community: Anchorage

Message: This is a fantastic idea! It will help Alaskans and it doesn't hurt anyone who is financially vulnerable.

Dennis Marks,

Anchorage

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Martha Raynolds [REDACTED]

Community: Fairbanks

Message: Dear Representative Galvin,

Thank you for being brave enough to sponsor HB 156. Yes, Alaska needs an income tax, and one that will tax seasonal workers as well as residents.

Thanks for trying to get our budget on a sustainable footing.

Best,

-- Martha

+ - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + - + -

Martha Raynolds

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Emiko Strandberg

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

Thks for working for us. It is very difficult timed to deal with many bills.

Yes, we have to dealing with many issues yet. However Your ideas seem to be good. You surely have many good ideas. I am so glad that you are doing well.

With best regards, Emiko Strandberg

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Joseph M (Jack) Colonell [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

This is in response to your proposal to enact a state income tax. First of all, I am entirely in favor of a state income tax, not least because it would establish a connection between Alaska voters and our elected representatives in Juneau.

HB156 Emailed Comments

I have been a permanent resident of Alaska since June 1976 and have lived in Anchorage since July 1980.. I was a great fan of Gov. Jay Hammond but I believed then, and still believe, that he made a major mistake when he furloughed the state income tax. As I stated above, I believe that the most important effect of a state income tax is to establish a fiscal connection between Alaska voters and our elected representatives, a connection that has not existed since the early 1980s.

I agree with your proposal about a 2 percent tax on ALL income earned within Alaska. I agree that there should be a generous exemption for legally resident Alaskans, in accord with your proposal. However, I believe that the tax should be applicable to ALL income earned within Alaska, with no income exemption for nonresidents.

Finally, I believe that the legislature spends far too much time worrying about the PFD. First priority should be to pay our bills. Paying for a PFD should not be a concern until all our bills are paid and the budget is balanced. I recognize that there are constitutional requirements regarding the PFD. I urge the Legislature to change these to be less restrictive, such that the PFD is share of the State's revenue after the bills are paid, which is what I believe Governors Hammond and Hickel always intended.

Thank you for asking the opinion of your constituents. Keep up your good work!
Very kind regards,

Jack Colonell
Joseph M (Jack) Colonell



Anchorage, Alaska

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Robin Oulette

Community: Wasilla

Message: My vote is yes! As long as it won't continuously be raised

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Leanne Converse

Community: Haines

Message: I agree. We should have an income tax. I'm not sure we should set the bar so high though I don't earn \$200,000 but think I should contribute.

Leanne Converse



Haines, AK

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Delenora Grey

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

HB156 Emailed Comments

Thank you so much for being willing to take a first step toward creating a more stable fiscal future for our state by introducing an income tax! I believe an income tax is much fairer than a sales tax, since the latter hurts low-income families disproportionately. It's about time the citizens of Alaska start paying our fair share to guarantee a reasonable level of state services. A very applicable phrase I've heard a lot recently is, you can't cut your way to prosperity.

I am also glad to see that your proposal would generate tax revenue from workers who live outside Alaska but earn their money here, keeping a small percentage of that money in our state.

My concern is that \$150 million per year is nowhere near enough to get us back on stable financial footing, especially if the huge, proposed raise for the governor, cabinet and legislators goes through. I think if you want to keep the tax rate at a low 2%, you should lower the income threshold to that in excess of \$100,000. I do not know how much more revenue that would generate, but it would not harm anyone at that income level and would give a larger percentage of Alaskans a stake in our fiscal situation.

As a citizen who has been watching bigger PFDs given out each year while the state's savings is drained and services are cut, I personally think the time to talk income tax was 5 or 6 years ago. I hope you can finally convince some of your colleagues that they do not deserve to be elected to another term if they are not willing to finally do the job they were sent to Juneau to do, which is to put our financial house in order and bring state services back up to where they should be.

I know the right choice is not always the politically popular one. Thank you for trying to do the right thing for Alaska!

Sincerely,
Delenora Grey

[REDACTED]

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Kristine Harder

Community: Haines

Message: Even though none of us really LIKE to pay taxes, I recognize that at this time we are out of options if we want to support our schools and residents. I support HB 156.

Kristine Harder

[REDACTED]

Haines, AK 99827

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Dave Collett-Paule

Community: Homer

Message Dear Alyse,

I'm glad someone finally had the courage to stand up and recommend an income tax. Living as we do in Homer, a statewide sales tax, as proposed by one of your colleagues, would be a heavy burden as we already pay close to 8% sales tax here.

I think your proposal doesn't go far enough but it's a good start to the conversation.

You have our full support!

Dave Collett-Paule

Homer

[REDACTED]

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Celia Foley

Community: Anchorage

Message: I am in favor of HOUSE BILL NO. 156. I understand that taxes will not save the future of Alaska. Each method that will add to funding education and health care for those that need it should be used. This proposal is realistic. It will help a bit without being a detriment to those with no or low income.

Please support.

Thank you.

Celia Foley

[REDACTED]

Anchorage, Alaska 99517

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Sandra Dauenhauer

Community: Ester

Message: Hello, Rep. Galvin,

I'm not your constituent but I believe strongly that Alaska should have an income tax. I paid income and school taxes here until they were foolishly removed from the books in the early 1980's.

The idea that the state has no higher purpose than to hand out ever increasing amounts of "free" money to residents who feel no obligation to the community and its future as a whole is toxic and even of questionable morality in my mind.

Sandra Dauenhauer. Ester, AK. 99725

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Jim Dory

Community: Nome

Message: Hello Rep Alyse Galvin,

I want to thank you for presenting this bill (HB 156) and supporting a state income tax.

Nobody likes taxes, but I think this is the right direction for the state.

regards, Jim

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 13, 2023

Name: Sigrun Robertson

Community: Anchorage

Message: I am very much in favor of a tax, particularly if it does not affect low income earners. What is proposed sounds very reasonable and fair. As Alaskans we must re-learn to pay our way, while budgeting adequately for education, infrastructure, safety and what we need for a quality life in our state Thank you for asking for my input.

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Fred Einspruch [REDACTED]

Community: Haines

Message: Alyse, Do not implement an income tax on Alaskans. Once implemented there is no stopping it. What you are saying is that the government will now steal your PFD. Fred

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Linda Sharp [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Good morning Alyse,

Thank you for the information about your proposed new bill on income tax.

It's fine with me to have an income tax, and in particular one that allows an exemption of reasonable income earners to not pay any income tax.

The questions I have:

A. Is there a way to get the PFD into law that it can never exceed \$2,000 pp including any 'utilities assistance' or other ways to jack it up?

There are plenty of people who hear about the oil money gift and head to Alaska. I have met some of them while traveling, and also while in AZ where we winter. And I've met many who already lived in Alaska and have come to think of the big PFD bucks as a way to subsidize their choices of where to live and whether to work to earn a living, etc.

B. I'd consider offering support for an income tax similar to your proposal if the PFD is going to be lower total including any addons such as utilities or other variations. Is there a way to add that into your HB 156?

Thank you.

Linda Sharp

51 year Alaska voter

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Dayna Rumfelt [REDACTED]

Community: Palmer

Message: Yes! Do it!

Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Sandro Lane [REDACTED]

Community: Juneau

Message: Hello representative Galvin.

I'm curious as to the admin cost to the state to manage, implement, and enforce an income tax in the state?

HB156 Emailed Comments

It makes more sense to me to reduce/suspend or eliminate the permanent fund dividend program rather than have the cost of a new program added on top of an already exiting program. Seems crazy to pay for a PFD and then turn right around and give it back to the state for income taxes and for the state to pay for both these two programs.

We need to reduce spending at state level not increase it.

In health,

Sandro

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Mary Lynne Dahl [REDACTED]

Community: Ketchikan

Message: I support a modest income tax in Alaska. I also support eliminating the oil tax credits for oil companies doing business in Alaska. Finally, i support a 75/25 split of PFD earnings for go vernment/dividend payments as well. Thank you for asking my opinion.

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Audrey Renschen [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: You are a brave woman Alyse!! Rock on!!

- Audrey Renschen

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Mo Sanders [REDACTED]

Community: Soldotna

Message: I am 100% in favor of income tax in Alaska. This proposal is very low. Anyone making more than \$200,000 can easily pay according to this formula. I am willing to pay income tax, and I make for less than \$200,000 a year!

Mo Sanders
[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Wayne Stanley [REDACTED]

Community: Homer

Message: I support the proposal

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Ellen Larson [REDACTED]

Community: Haines

Message: Dear Representative Galvin,

It is high time that we had a state income tax. (Alaska is 1 of 8 states that currently does not have one.)

I am deeply concerned about our loss in revenue and the future potential cuts in social service programs, Medicaid, etc- cuts that affect those that are most in need.

Also, the Alaska Marine Highway is in dire need of funding.

HB156 Emailed Comments

I am also frustrated over the wasteful spending such as the new ferry terminal that has been proposed at Cascade Point and the money that has already been spent on such a foolish endeavor.

I support SB 156.

Thank you for bringing this forward.

It is important.

Sincerely,

Ellen Larson

Long-time Haines Resident

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Maurice Cruickshank [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: I totally support a state income tax. It's been long over due. The residents of this state need to have a reason to participate in their government. Using our state oil tax money as if it were free money is just not rational. Hopefully with some skin in the game we as a state can make better choices about who we tax, how much and how we spend it. Using the PFD is not a fair way to tax us all. Those that have more disposable income need to pay more taxes and those at the other end should not have to forfeit their Alaska PFD. Thank you for proposing this bill for logical discussion.

John Cruickshank

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Gary Miller [REDACTED]

Community: Juneau

Message: Alyse, Andi, Sara, Jesse

It is about time someone does something to bring back an income tax. For years we have heard talk about deficits when state services, and especially educating our children, should lead discussions. Thanks Alyse.

Gary Miller

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Maureen Knutsen [REDACTED]

Community: Naknek

Message: You have my support.

Maureen Knutsen

Naknek, AK

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Stephanie Rogers [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hello,

I understand the need for additional revenue for the State, however, I do not believe the Government in the State of Alaska is spending wisely, nor do I feel that taxing only those who are making over 200k is the answer.

HB156 Emailed Comments

What are the deliverables on the marijuana tax that has been collected??? What is being done with that money?

What are the deliverables for the money spent on the base allocation for education? We are at the BOTTOM in rankings for the entire Country, and we have been for several years. Our State government needs to tie some strings to that money, the Districts need to put more effort into teaching, not administration. Give teachers more freedom to teach, and put money into ways to retain them, not new ways to teach. They know how to be passionate and teach children, let them.

If you want to add a tax, add a sales tax to everything but WIC items and then everyone will contribute to funding what will benefit all of us.

BTW, move the capital to the road system so it is accessible to everyone and the costs are less. Stop adding extra sessions at the cost of millions. Turn the current capital into shops or a museum, it's a beautiful building but it is past it's prime in a lot of ways. Our government needs to be more practical. The money spent on housing, travel and per diem to Juneau is outrageous, and our Government operates in a silo.

I have lived here most of my life, my Grandmother worked for Governor Hickel and my Grandfather helped build the Alcan, and my Father was a draftsman for the Alyeska Pipeline,. My family has loved Alaska through boom and bust, this is the worst shape we have EVER seen it. We want our Government to do better.

Thanks for listening,
Stephanie Rogers

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Lynda Giguere [REDACTED]

Community: Kenai

Message: Dear Representative Galvin,

I support reinstating an income tax in Alaska. When I first arrived here in 1975, Alaska had a state income tax. After striking it rich with oil, abolishing the income tax became a bargaining chip and I think it was a mistake not to keep it on the books. It's past time we have a serious discussion about how best to raise revenues to ensure a high quality of life here in this beautiful state.

I also believe it goes without saying that we must change the oil tax structure as well. SB 7 was misguided and should be repealed. This was one area that former Governor Palin got right.

I oppose a state sales tax. Juneau residents and many other communities, except for Anchorage, already pay sales taxes to the their respective cities and adding another sales tax on top of that would be inequitable and unfair.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Lynda Giguere

Sent from my iPhone

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Sandra Holsten [REDACTED]

Community: Cooper Landing

HB156 Emailed Comments

Message: Know this is not any easy issue but taxing only people who make their living in Alaska while ignoring the many people who claim residency here to avoid paying taxes in the states where they actually live in simply unfair. Most of these folks do not add to our communities. They use our roads, ambulances but do not even participate in community events let alone volunteer.

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: DAVE JOHNSON [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: I support generating additional avenues of revenue, including an income tax.

Thanks,

Dave Johnson
[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Kristine [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: I would prefer an income tax - rather than sales tax!! I like the "derived" part too so people who make money here will be taxed !!

Thank you !!

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Stephen OBrien [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin:

Great idea! This is the most workable solution to bolstering state revenue I've seen yet. Not only would it impact only wealthier Alaskans, it would garner income from the "carpet baggers" who make their income in remote locations and then skedaddle to the lower 48 to spend their incomes there.

When I first came to Alaska in the 70's Alaska had a graduated income tax, we should have never abolished it.

Sincerely,

Stephen O'Brien

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Cheryl & Mark Lovegreen [REDACTED]

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Alyse,

Thank you for your service. Please use this however you see fit.

I grew up in Alaska, and recall when every person paid a small school tax from their first paycheck of the year. It was not a burden, and it helped Alaskans become stakeholders in our state government. The \$20 provision of HB 156 would achieve the same goal.

I have also been around long enough to see Alaska's state oil income go from a major source of revenue to a small fraction of what we need to provide services such as roads and public safety. The income tax provision of HB 156 would create a new source of revenue that is not too onerous, with the bonus of creating revenue from non-resident workers.

I wholeheartedly support HB 156.

Cheryl Lovegreen

HB156 Emailed Comments

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|---|
| <p>Anchorage</p> <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> <p>Name: Carol Davis [REDACTED]</p> <p>Community: Fairbanks</p> <p>Message: I am in support of this bill, HB 156.</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> <p>Name: Peter Branson [REDACTED]</p> <p>Community: Wrangell</p> <p>Message: No thanks on the income tax proposal, rather you focus your efforts on HP 114, let's get something for our resources instead of paying them to take them!</p> <p>Thanks, Peter Branson</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> <p>Name: Phyllis Rhodes [REDACTED]</p> <p>Community: Anchorage</p> <p>Message: Cannot clearly see handing out generous PFD to EVERY INDIVIDUAL and income taxing some. What is income derived in the state?</p> <p>Thanks</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> <p>Name: Lin Hampson</p> <p>Community: Homer</p> <p>Message: It's time to stop the boom an busy cycles in Alaska. Schools and other agencies need a plan not a quick switch at the last minute each year. We are loosening good employees who are tired of holding their breath wondering if they will have a job.</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> <p>Name: Dru Sorenson</p> <p>Community: Hope</p> <p>Message: I support HB 156 we must do something! I applaud you for recommending..I have said we need a state tax for years especially so outsiders who work here especially the big buck ones pay their fair share.</p> <p>Altho I agree with Bill Weislouski we must repeal the oil credits , that are making us poor as well</p> <p>Dru Sorenson</p> <p>---Sourdough Dru</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> <p>Name: Elizabeth Dahl</p> <p>Community: Juneau</p> <p>Message: Dear Representative Galvin, You asked for feedback on your income tax bill - HB 156.</p> <p>I do support HB 156</p> <p>I agree we need to raise revenue for state services through a state income tax.</p> <p>I DO NOT SUPPORT implementing A STATEWIDE SALES TAX</p> <p>To raise even more revenue - I would support lowering your \$200,000 taxable income threshold to \$100,000 or \$150,000</p> |

HB156 Emailed Comments

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Dahl, 61 yo life-long Alaskan
Juneau, AK

Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Elizabeth Hertz
Community: Anchorage
Message: Finally a reasonable plan. The free ride needs to end and we need to start paying for the services we want.
Elizabeth Hertz

Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Deborah Ward
Community: Anchorage
Message: Dear Rep Galvin -
Thank you for presenting the income tax revenue bill. Not only is it measured and fair, it also offers a real solution to the ongoing budget and revenue problems our state faces. Alaska needs additional revenue to provide basic services throughout the state. In the past, workers paid a \$50 fee that helped fund public education. I propose that the \$20 fee should be raised to \$50 for individuals who earn more than \$50,000 per year/families \$100,000. The additional \$30 would be dedicated solely to public education. Thank you again for representing Anchorage in Juneau.
Sincerely,
Deborah Ward,
Anchorage, AK
[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Sue Keller
Community: Fairbanks
Message: your bill sounds great to me!
Sue Keller
[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Lorene Lynn
Community: Palmer
Message: Dear Representative Galvin,
While I dread state income taxes, I recognize that it is now necessary. The budgeting tool developed by ISER (UAA) showed me how we cannot balance our budget without an income tax. As a family who has income at a level that would require us to pay, I reluctantly support HB 156.
Regards,
Lorene Lynn
--
Lorene Lynn
[REDACTED]

HB156 Emailed Comments

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|---|
| <div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Cynthia L. Lyons
Community: Anchorage
Message: Dear Rep Galvin:
Thank you for the information about HB 156. In the past, I have not been a supporter of an income tax, favoring a sales tax that exempts food, housing, and possibly clothing. However, this bill seems like something I can support. People that don't make much money can't afford a lot, but I agree that it gives everyone an interest in paying attention to more than just how much their dividend payment is going to be. That's not a good way to make decisions about who you are going to vote for. I like that those who make more, pay more.
Overall, I am in support of this proposed bill and hope you can make some progress with it.
Sincerely,
Cynthia L. Lyons
<div></div>
Anchorage, AK 99517</p></div> |
| <div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Christine S'gro
Community: Juneau
Message: Dear Representative Galvin,
I support HB 156 if this tax would help support teachers, firefighters, and the police with getting back a pension. I support this bill if part of the funds is given to the student base. I support this bill if the funds are used to bring back ferry service to southeast Alaska.

As much as I do not want to pay an income tax, I am willing to pay one if the funds are used accordingly. Our education system is imploding, teachers are burnt out, and the state cannot find employees within the state of Alaska.
Seasonal employees and miners, need to help support the state. We all do.
Sincerely,
Christine S'gro
Educator in the Juneau School District</p></div> |
| <div><div></div><div></div></div> <div><p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Jim Lavrakas
Community: Homer
Message: Alyse,
I approve of this bill creating a state income tax. We would like to see on-residents pay a higher percentage of the tax, however.

+++++++
Jim Lavrakas
Homer, AK 99603
<div></div></p></div> |

HB156 Emailed Comments

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| <p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Sharon Roberts
Community: Anchorage
Message: Why not raise \$20 to \$100? \$20 hardly seems worth the paperwork. Still not that much so individually would not have that much effect but overall would make a bigger difference.
Thanks</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Dean Sheehy
Community: Ketchikan
Message: Seems "derived within the state of Alaska" is in conflict with Adjusted Gross Income on a Federal return. How are pensions or rental income from other states derived in Alaska? The minimum tax should be at least \$100 minimum. \$20 as a joke.
Maybe a progressive system 3-5 tiers would be better.</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: James Alborough
Community: Haines
Message: HB156 sounds like a great plan!

James Alborough
[REDACTED]</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: AJ Gharrett
Community: Auke Bay
Message: I am not a fan of a regressive flat tax. A low cut off at, say \$50k per year or a steeply graduated tax is preferable, particularly in Alaska. My family will pay much more than 2%, but that is fair.
AJ Gharrett</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: John Sanchez
Community: Anchorage
Message: Hi ,I support your house bill 156 .</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023
Name: Bonnie and Haig Demerjian
Community: Wrangell
Message: Wed agree that an income tax rather than a sales tax is the way we need to go to generate income for state services. The idea of being permitted to take it out of the PFD is a good one.
Keep up the good work!
Bonnie and Haig Demerjian
Wrangell, AK</p> |
| <p>Date: April 14, 2023</p> |

HB156 Emailed Comments

Name: Marina Lindsey

Community: Juneau

Message: Dear Representatives,

As much as I don't want to pay taxes, Alaska needs the money for essential services like education, healthcare, and ferries. I'm in support of HB 156.

M A R I N A L I N D S E Y

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Nancy Lehnhart

Community: Juneau

Message: I am most definitely in favor of an income tax and this bill sounds fair and reasonable. We need to be willing to pay for the quality of life that state services help to provide for us.

I think the reminder to folks that our pfd could pay our taxes is a really helpful and interesting perspective--and the pfd is bonus income, where else do people get such a payment for simply living here?!

Thank you for moving this forward!

Nancy Lehnhart

Juneau

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Kris Hoffman

Community: Sitka

Message: I support an income tax for Alaska, and those amounts seem very reasonable.

Thank you for sending the email updates- great job Alyse! I'm so glad you won!

Kris Hoffmann

Sitka

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Anne brooks

Community: Delta Junction

Message: Rep Galvin

I applaud your introduction of an income tax and fully support it. I have long felt that we, Alaskans, needed to have some personal skin in the game I order to truly prioritize spending. I also want out of state workers to contribute locally as they do use goods and services of the state.

I think your presentation needs to answer the following questions:

Why do we need the income tax now? I feel that this would give you an opening to discuss the fact that the draconian cuts imposed in Dunleavy's first term are just now showing how badly they impacted services—delays in snap payments, inability to recruit and retain staff, etc.

Equity is important too. I understand that some parts of the state do not have a taxing mechanism to make a local contribution to schools and in those areas the cost of schools is

HB156 Emailed Comments

born by the general fund. If everyone with a certain income level has to pay then perhaps they will get more engaged.

What would an inflation adjusted school tax look like today? I paid this tax when I first arrived in Alaska in 1974--\$10 from my first paycheck of the year. The price of less than two tall mochas.

What are the real impacts of do-nothing? Continued hits on social services and education and university and poor park and further decline in public services. Paint a true picture here. We have the most deteriorating campgrounds in the most beautiful state. Is this what we want? Not me

Thanks for your courage. Keep up the excellent work

Anne brooks
[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: John Sanborn

Community: Soldotna

Message: Greetings Rep. Galvin,

I understand the need to increase revenue for the State of Alaska. I wonder what safe guards that prevent future government from just raising the percentage of tax and lowering the income level? Would this be put up to the people to vote on? I have experienced where state governments have just voted for more tax and did not put it to the people, the results was the people pushed back putting forward a lowering of the tax to a dangerous level to run important services.

Why can't we place the tax on the oil industry as they are making record profits, instead of hitting those that work for a living? I make less than the threshold you mentioned, but honestly I feel the oil industry can afford to pay more for taking our oil.

Best wishes in finding a solution, not an easy task, but a necessary one.

John Sanborn
[REDACTED]

Soldotna, AK 99669
[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Bruce Merrell

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hello Alyse,

I'm very much in favor of your HB 156 income tax proposal and have believed for a long time that getting rid of any state income tax at all, back in the 80s, was a big mistake.

We are retirees who have been here most of our lives: my wife was born in Anchorage and my family moved to Juneau before statehood. She was a school teacher and I worked for the Municipality of Anchorage. Thanks to the lucky timing of starting our working lives just as oil started to flow, we've had a good life in Alaska. Financially, I think of it as surfing a wave of oil. That wave has hit the beach and we Alaskans--surfers?--need to find another way to keep going.

The \$200,000 threshold for starting to pay state income tax seems like a good one.

HB156 Emailed Comments

However, your proposed minimum of a \$20 tax will run into resistance in rural Alaska, especially. In retirement I've spent over a decade volunteering with a nonprofit, the Alaska Business Development Center, that provides free income tax preparation help off the road system. I've helped many residents whose taxable income was their PFD, period, or just a bit more due to a short-term village job. Although I admire the goal of all residents having skin in the game, these folks need every penny they can get to survive. If your bill goes anywhere, reducing the minimum tax to \$10 could be a bargaining chip.

Another thought on taxes: currently there is no mechanism for recipients of the PFD to have their federal income tax taken out of the dividend, resulting in a tax payment due in April, a time of year when few low-income residents have spare cash. With recent larger PFD amounts, that federal tax bill has grown, and in a family with multiple children--they all pay federal tax on their PFDs--this can result in a considerable burden. If your bill goes forward it would be great if the PFD application form could include a way to collect the federal income tax as well as what's due to the state.

Back in 1995 Howard Weaver, former editor of the Anchorage Daily News, gave a speech at the annual meeting of the Alaska Historical Society. His theme was the myth of pioneer individualism that is so pervasive and so disconnected from modern urban Alaska where we paid--and continue to pay--the lowest overall tax burden in the nation. In his talk he said this: "These Alaskans have adopted the classic cry that Wallace Stegner identified as the anthem of the whole West: Leave us alone and send more money."

Yep, that's us.

I look forward to following your income tax bill in the coming weeks.

Best wishes,

Bruce Merrell

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Geraldine Taylor

Community: Wasilla

Message: Hey Alyse. I full support HB 156. We really need to do something and I believe this is an excellent step in gaining not only financial stability, but also increased public awareness and involvement in our State governance.

Thank you

Geraldine Taylor

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Kathryn Fizzera

Community: Fairbanks

Message: I fully support an income tax. Your bill is a little too generous. I believe that the start amount should be closer to 100,00.00. I am ok with the 20.00 per earner. When I first came to Alaska, there was a 10.00 per earner school tax. It was not a problem. We need to be sure that collecting the income tax doesn't come with a large cost. The ease of collecting the tax as derived from federal taxes is in its favor.

I do not support a state sales tax. A sales tax hits the wrong people and is expensive to collect.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Frizzera

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Laurinda Marcello

Community: Sitka

Message: Dear House Ways & Means Committee,

I encourage you to support HB 156 reestablishing an income tax in Alaska sponsored Representatives Galvin & Groh.

Our state is no longer competitive with other states in the Western US. We have been seeing significant outmigration of the working age population. Causes range from inadequate pay and retirement benefits for state employees, to a lack of licensed childcare for kids under 5, to disinvestment in public education and beyond.

Revenue is needed to solve any of those problems. The most equitable way to generate that revenue is an income tax. This income tax proposal is simple and easy to understand. The levels of income taxed could be amended in the future to allow for additional marginal tax rates or to adjust for inflation.

I would further note that I paid income tax to both Indiana and Oregon as a work-study student during college. A friend travels each year to do a very short-term job and pays income tax to Ohio on those earnings. When Alaskans study or work elsewhere, we are being taxed. So why not tax the non-residents who study or work here in Alaska?

Alaska needs an income tax and is long overdue for it. Please support HB 156.

Thank you,

Laurinda Marcello

Sitka, AK

cc: Representative Galvin, Representative Groh, Representative Himschoot, Senator Stedman

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Steve Kinney

Community: Ketchikan

Message: Alyse, Thank you for presenting this idea. I am very much in favor of Alaskans paying their fair share of the cost of being a State. For too long we have cut back on the quality of life here in our most beautiful environment, causing a slow emigration of Alaskans to the other states. An income tax is the most fair way to do this as it doesn't unequally burden those with low incomes. Villagers can still depend upon their dividend, and depending upon their income pay their fair share. I fully support of this legislation.

Thank you

Steve Kinney

[REDACTED]
Ketchikan AK 99901

[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: John Mahaffey

Community: Anchorage

Message: I think HB156 is a great move to increase our revenue and would support it in the form described in the email. John

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Diana Carbonell

Community: Fritz Creek

Message: Thank you Representative Galvin for proposing an income tax. Alaska needs a broad based tax that doesn't disproportionately hurt poor and rural Alaskans and captures revenue from out of state workers and s-corporations. I wish you and your staff success.

Sincerely,

Diana Carbonell

Fritz Creek, AK

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Jeanne Swartz

Community: Seward

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

Thank you for keeping your constituents updated on legislative matters. As a former state employee, I saw how services were eroded and important programs were dismantled in favor of expensive, unneeded projects that were only proposed to serve private industry or outsized egos (Susitna-Watana dam, anyone?) I believe that if people in Alaska were fairly taxed, they would have a real stake in how state money is spent and that would be good for everyone. Please add my voice to the number of citizens in support of HB 156 – and thank you for your hard work - Jeanne

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Carol Gerken

Community: Juneau

Message: Dear Representative Galvin,

I am totally on board with your proposed revenue bill. An income tax is a much fairer way to generate income than a sales tax which would have a greater impact on the poor. I have been a resident of Juneau for 50 years and never could understand why the income tax was totally dropped. How shortsighted! Just think of the money we have lost from nonresident workers all these years and now we are spending down all of our savings.

At the time the permanent fund was initiated I understood it to be our rainy day account to pay for state government when oil revenues declined not as a means to continue to pay out high dividends to residents.

Good luck on your proposal.

Respectfully,

Carol Gerken

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Gail Heineman

Community: Anchorage

Message: Representative Galvin,

I support an income tax for Alaska (especially for workers who live out-of-state).

This bill, HB 156, would implement an income tax.

Although I would prefer a higher percentage tax, I don't want to quibble.

For a sustainable long-term fiscal plan, an income tax or sales tax or both is required, and an

HB156 Emailed Comments

income tax is more fair.

So yes, this long-time Alaskan hopes you can get this bill passed.

Let's get back to where we were before the PFD, when Alaskans paid both an income tax and a head tax for schools, for the good of our State.

Thank you,

Gail

Gail Heineman

[REDACTED]

Anchorage AK 99502

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Kara Johnson

Community: Juneau

Message: Hello Representative Galvin,

I want to thank you for proposing an income tax for Alaskans. I would much prefer an income tax over any statewide sales tax. A large part of the Alaskan work force is seasonal and does not reside in Alaska. An income tax that includes those that reside down south is essential to Alaska's financial stability. It literally makes me sick that workers earn gobs of money and then take all the financial benefit to other states without Alaska getting a little of that money.

I know that so many congressmen and women do not support an income tax. I hope that you are successful in this proposal.

Kara Johnson

Juneau Alaska

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Mike & Mariellen Hanchett

Community: Wasilla

Message: We strongly support HB 156 and think it's long overdue. After decades of talking about a fiscal plan the legislature has done nothing while waiting for just one more oil well. Our schools, infrastructure and savings have crumbled. Family and children services, Medicaid and SNAP are so poorly funded and run that they are endangered of being sued. DOC has prisons with virtually no job training, on-line courses, re-hab, or exercise facilities. Not a lot of correction going on there. Our one concern is it doesn't raise enough revenue to fill the budget gap but at least it's a start. Alaskans need to start paying their way.

Mike & Mariellen Hanchett

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Jim Kelley

Community: Wasilla

Message: Please no...we have to look harder at cutting government spending at the state and local level. Cut deep into government programs, cut deep into regulations that cause us to increase government oversite. Do you know we spend about 5 mil on the local animal shelter, and I love animals, we could spend half that and get twice the results privately. I know that animal shelters are not a state issue but overall the state sends money to the borough, sorry but these nice things may have to go, the local private groups will pick up the slack. And the school system is absolutely broken. A massive change needs to take place, let the parents make their own choices and create a free market for schools because the

HB156 Emailed Comments

government has run it into the ground. They are bringing their kids to school most of the time anyway because of massive miss-management of the bus contract. Cut, cut, cut.....Adding more money to a broken system will not work, just feed the monster and make it fatter....so I say starve the monster till it loses weight. So if you want to get serious and have a serious conversation then let's talk about government management and operations not generating more revenue to be wasted. Just my opinion. Thanks for listening. Jim

Jim Kelley

[REDACTED]

Wasilla AK, 99654

[REDACTED]

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Marguerite Taylor

Community: Wasilla

Message: I believe Gov. Hammond strongly encouraged an income tax accompanying the start of the PFD so Alaskans would pay attention to the actions of their elected officials & how our money was being spent. Looks like he was right. I have always supported a state income tax & will be supporting you in this uphill battle!

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Penny Gage

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hello,

I am strongly supportive of an income tax on Alaskans, especially one that is not regressive.

As we work to attract new industries to Alaska and new workers, none of that adds to our state budget if we don't have an income tax. Alaska's future to thrive is at stake.

I care about this state and this place and am willing to pay my share to support its future.

Thank you,

Penny Gage, Anchorage, AK

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: MaryAnn Cochran

Community: Palmer

Message: I applaud your actions. I too believe a tax is in order.

Why are we not exploring a seasonal sales tax?

I work in the tourism business. Most tourist are use to paying sales tax.

We are leaving money on the table.

Run it from April to October.

Thank you for trying to help us.

Don't get discouraged.

MaryAnn Cochran

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Mary Garrett

Community: Anchorage

HB156 Emailed Comments

Message: Alyse, I surely hope that your bill is approved and passed into law. For decades, the people of Alaska have had no vested interest in our state government, because the vast majority of state income comes from the extraction industries and the federal government. Why should legislators cater to the needs of the citizens under these circumstances? They usually don't!

I fully support the reinstatement of the Alaska State income tax.

Mary Garrett, Anchorage 99508

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Ken Flynn

Community: Anchorage

Message: We are in favor of this long overdue legislation.

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Lena Merrell

Community: Juneau

Message: Hello Rep. Galvin,

I received an email from your office this morning about your tax bill and have some questions- Why can't more emphasis be put on those non Alaskans who do not contribute to the state, but work here? You mention that about 10% of the funds would come from these folks, but I think it should be more. I am sick and tired of folks coming here to work in our industries that take from the land (mining, oil, charter fishing) and live down south. Making Alaskan wages and taking jobs from Alaskans, but not paying any taxes. I think if you don't qualify for a PFD it should be a higher tax percentage. I'm also not sure that getting \$20 from each Alaskan is worth the time and effort it would take to implement the system. The PFD opt in is a good idea, so maybe it won't take too much oversight? Just not sure the revenue vs cost output of that portion makes sense. I do think the 200K cutoff is fair and appropriate. I'll see if I get a response, but do want to write or call in to support the bill.

Thanks for your time,

Lena Merrell

[REDACTED]

Juneau Alaska

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Ed & Aggie Bostrom

Community: Anchorage

Message: YES! YES! YES! My wife and I have been waiting for this for a loooong time! It's time Alaskans have responsibility for their government. And, that visitors begin to pay their fair share. A regressive sales tax is WRONG! If you gain more from our great state, you should contribute more! Good luck! . . . and, thank you!

Ed & Aggie Bostrom

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Carroll Brookman

Community: Soldotna

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

I fully support this bill. We should never have dropped the State Income Tax once the oil started flowing a permanent fund check to every man, woman and child in Alaska.

HB156 Emailed Comments

So called conservatives decry any suggestion of paying taxes, yet have their hands out to the Federal Government and the State of Alaska to pay them the dividend. We worked hard to be granted Statehood to gain autonomy. We live in one of the richest states. Let's start paying our own way.

Thank you for your efforts.

Carroll Brookman

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Harold Parker

Community: Chugiak

Message: Ms. Galvin,

You are so brave, proposing an income tax; I hope they don't set up a gallows.

Good for you, thanks for trying this! We now have a whole generation of Alaskans who expect money FROM the State; and who also tend to disengage from fiscal concerns, because it's just 'free money' anyway. And now that there has not been an excess of it, all they can think of is that we have to cut, cut, cut: there's no other possible solution. And/or seduce big companies to exploit our resources more, so that we can get a little piece of the profits 'for free', without serious regard for degrading our prized environment.

The anti taxers will scream that, even though this proposal is (perhaps overly) modest in raising revenue, it is 'getting their nasty foot in the door'. Your argument is that it is a better option than more cuts to important services and doing more damage risk to our water, soil, and air - rather important resources, some of us think!

Why not make the income ceiling \$100,000 or less? Harold Parker, Chugiak

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Elizabeth Downing

Community: Anchorage

Message: Dear Representative Galvin,

I recently read an article about HB 156 proposing a small income tax to help offset costs in the state budget. I believe this, combined with other proposed measures, will make a significant difference for our financially strapped services for Alaskans. I noticed that the anticipated income of \$175 million is the same as the proposed one-time increase for education. A worthy purpose.

I appreciate the flat fee approach (deductible from the PFD) for those making less than \$200,000 although it seems reasonable to increase that on a sliding scale. Perhaps, like most states, tie it to Federal income tax at 2% for everyone.

I am concerned, however, about proposals for sales tax. Besides being regressive, hurting those more who have less, it is a hardship to those outside of Anchorage (where there is no borough or city tax). Here in Homer, we pay a combined 7.75% sales tax. Increasing that amount across the state is incredibly unfair to those who already pay a premium for food and other necessities in our communities along with the hefty sales tax. (Just last night I saw comments about the city charging \$10/day for parking on the Homer Spit. Many complained that it was a bridge too far on top of local sales and property tax.)

HB156 Emailed Comments

My hope is that Anchorage legislators, and all legislators, will keep equitable taxation in mind when proposing sales taxes. They do hurt small town businesses and will also hurt Anchorage businesses if implemented. Why drive 200+ miles for a “Costco run” if sales tax will diminish the savings? Let’s come up with a formula that does not put a greater burden on those with fixed or low incomes while sharing taxation among city, borough, and state government services. Let’s put the emphasis on income tax and user fees that capture out-of-state workers and visitors and/or modify sales tax to exclude food.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Downing

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: John and Ruth Ewig

Community: North Pole

Message: Instead of taxing us, use fiscal restraint.

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Wendy Robbins

Community: Anchorage

Message: Hi Alyse!

I hope you've had a good winter. I thought break-up was on its way and then Anchorage received another foot of snow! I enjoy walking on snowy trails, but do look forward to wildflowers and sunny deck time.

Thank you for the recent email. I'm so glad the Alaska legislators are considering reinstating the State income tax. A meaningful income tax should help guarantee necessary services that all Alaskans deserve as well as a healthy PFD far into the future. I know I'm preaching to the choir.

However, the current plan of \$20+ (2% of taxable income over \$200K) does not raise enough income to help Alaska provide for important services (good education, public safety, road construction/maintenance, decent employee benefits, etc), especially with a potential \$600M deficit. Someone with \$300,000 of taxable income ought to be willing and able to pay more than \$2000 in taxes to ensure Alaska can operate effectively. How about 14% of Federal Tax (Form 1040 line 24)?

A simple percentage of Federal Tax owed would ensure progressive taxation and be easy to calculate and administer. Please don't create another set of tax forms with multiple calculations!

Alaska should also have a sales tax. How about 8% with exceptions for food and medical?

Forty-one states have an income tax plus NH taxes interest and dividends. Forty-five states have a sales tax. Alaska is the only state with neither. No wonder we have a financial problem! By instituting meaningful income and sales taxes, Alaska will capture tax from Outside workers and tourists as well as allowing Alaskans to contribute to important State services. Decreases to the statutory PFD, while perhaps necessary in the short term, become a de facto tax on those Alaskans who can least afford such a loss, which is wrong.

Thank you for deciding it's time Alaskans start contributing to creating a better Alaska!

Wendy Robbins

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Leonard P. Krajkiewicz

Community: Anchorage

Message: Rep.Galvin,

The taxing of people that work hard and benefit the economy is quite insulting. This is a thinly veiled attempt at a wider income tax which you and your cohorts seem to believe we need as a state to keep up the never ending frivolous spending that has gone on too long. We need fiscal responsibility and accountability in our government at all levels.

I wish you well in your term as a state representative and thanks for your interest in soliciting feedback.

Respectfully,

Leonard P. Krajkiewicz

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Linda O'Bannon

Community: Anchorage

Message: I support your bill on income tax.

Thanks,

Linda O'Bannon

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Daniel D. Gibson & Jennifer Jolis

Community: Ester

Message: I support an income tax for Alaskans and out-of-state people who earn income in Alaska, paying an income tax on income over \$200,000 per year. With the abolition of the state income tax thousands and thousands of dollars left the State with workers hired from Outside. IF the income tax can not be re-instituted in this legislative year I strongly support a \$20 (or \$25) 'employment tax' for anyone who is paid, pays themselves, earns money in Alaska.

The State is in perilous territory. Schools, roads, services falling behind. The State is losing people who might otherwise enrich our state intellectually or in athletics, at the University, in governance. The number one people who are being recruited from Outside look at when considering employment in the State, NUMBER 1!, is the school systems. It's dismal. In real dollars for today's economy, new teachers are earning less per hour than they were 20 years ago.

Count us in.

Daniel D. Gibson

Jennifer Jolis

[REDACTED]

Ester.

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Steve Farring

Community: Anchorage

Message: Yes please.

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Karl Powers

Community: Ketchikan

Message: Alyse, I read your income tax proposal, and although I am not opposed to taxes at all, or income taxes, I find this to be a very bad proposal, and here is why. Taxes can be flat or progressive, progressive is usually the best choice for many reasons. This is not progressive. It is simply a tax on the wealthy, as all others are taxed at virtually 0. For this to occur at the same time that the state passes out equal dividends to all is simply a system to re-distribute wealth. Taxes have never been imposed solely for wealth re-distribution, even though this is a by-product of progressive taxation. This should not begin here and now. Although the dividend is politically popular, it is not what the permanent fund was created to do. It causes us to make fiscally unsound decisions to gain politically, not to manage this state the best we can. The time has come to end the dividend, to bolster the permanent fund and hold off the day of taxation as long as possible for us and our children. And when the time for taxation comes it should be progressive, not just taxing a small group, as most states do income taxation at a percentage of your federal tax bill, something we need to calculate every year already. Thanks for listening, Karl Powers

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Sherry Lentfer

Community: Anchorage

Message: This sounds good on paper however, as small business people who look like we make this amount of money and get charged state business taxes also are going to get double nailed again. We are homeowners here who we are double income workers again for taking the weight for those who don't work or are not property owners.

Particularly with the new oil production coming in Alaska this is not some thing else that needs to be put on the tax payer. I know your view is that people who work hard and own decent size homes not large, somehow I have been very lucky. It is not the case we work our butts off and always giving our money up. It gets really difficult. All the taxation for retirement for healthcare etc. really take a toll on usworking Americans. Do you want to keep this up and where are we going to be in America but a socialist country that will not have advances, and will turn out to be a nation with a very split class....those Uber wealth and/or those who work for the Federal government and are protected from many of these taxes. Your thoughts are nice on the surface, but in the real business world they are a big hit to the gut for those who work there butts off. I am absolutely apposed to this as you can tell.

Sherry Lentfer, OD, FCOVD

[REDACTED]

Anchorage, AK 99515

[REDACTED]

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 14, 2023

Name: Sharon Zandman-Zeman

Community: Anchorage

Message: I have called Alaska home since the mid-70's. It's a place I had hoped my children would move back. No one likes paying taxes but I want an Alaska that's not trying to cut its way to the bottom while promising large PFDs. HB 156 is one reasonable solution. I urge you to pass a fair income tax for us and for our children.

Thank you. For the record, I live in Andy Josephson's district.

Sharon Zandman-Zeman

Date: April 15, 2023

Name: Patricia Gillin

Community: Fairbanks

Message: Dear Rep. Galvin,

I fully support the aforementioned bill. Seems smart and logical.

Also, this may not be the proper forum, but I need to say this to someone. Please do not let MTG have any kind of classified ranking. She obviously feels all classified info is worth sharing, without any regard to whom it may hurt, etc.

Thank you,

Patricia Gillin

Date: April 15, 2023

Name: Ben Elbow

Community: Anchorage

Message: Alyse,

As a constituent and supporter of yours, thank you for the information on HB 156. It sounds like a reasonable and thoughtful approach. I fully support this bill. However, I also trust your judgement and am a big believer in compromise. If adjustments need to be made, then I'd support those too.

I know you were a close friend of Noel Nelson. She was a neighbor and dear friend to our family as well.

Thank you,

Ben

Date: April 15, 2023

Name: Bonnie Jack

Community: Anchorage

Message: Alyse –

I received your email about your income tax bill. It appears to be rather complicated, and I have to ask why? Why cannot an income bill be simply a percentage of the federal income tax an Alaskan pays, be that person a high income or low income person, an adult or a minor. Would not need lots more state employees to process it. I have for years supported a simple income tax for Alaskans. I do not support a statewide sales tax of any kind. However, I believe everyone should have some "skin in the game" when talking about our government, how it is run and operated.

Thanks for trying and keep up the good work. B/

HB156 Emailed Comments

Date: April 15, 2023

Name: Constance Markis

Community: Anchorage

Message: Thanks for being brave and introducing this!

Constance Markis

Anchorage

Date: April 15, 2023

Name: Susan Heuer

Community: Anchorage

Message: I support HB 156. This is a great first step towards responsibly starting to address our fiscal challenges. Thank you for proposing a concrete idea!

Date: April 16, 2023

Name: Steve Lewis

Community: Anchorage

Message: Representative Galvin,

Thank you for putting this issue up for consideration. I am a constituent residing in Rogers Park and I was here when the state income tax was repealed. At that time I felt that removing the tax, rather than just reducing it to zero, was a mistake. Time has proven that to be correct. While I support a broad based tax to support basic state services, I am sure that HB 156 as presented will fail. If you would modify the proposal to exclude Social Security income and base the tax on federal Taxable Income after that exclusion, rather than Adjusted Gross Income, the odds of this bill passing would be improved.

Thank you,

Steve Lewis

Date: April 16, 2023

Name: Brenda Layton

Community: Palmer

Message: Hello,

Please, no income tax! Please consider using other revenues, marijuana or alcohol tax. As a senior citizen still working to make ends meet, this income tax will make it more difficult than it already is to make it through each month.

Thank you,

Brenda Layton