

Mina Ryan

From: Aldean Kilbourn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:11 PM
To: Rep. CJ McCormick
Subject: SB77 in CRA

Senate Bill 77, a "blight tax bill" sponsored by Sen. Forrest Dunbar of Anchorage and with cosponsor Sen. Matt Claman

SB 77 implements a framework permitting municipalities to define blighted property and penalize them with a special tax.

To me, this entire bill is one designed to give certain people the ability to decide that they don't like what a private land owner has done with his or her property. This is a wrong attitude. This bill is putting "despotic" power into the hands of government, which is limited to only a few people making the decision.

What is done with one's private property should not be subject to the whims of government. This is based on the centuries-old honored principle that "a man's home is his castle."

What this bill does allow is for municipalities to pull more money into their coffers.

Alaska's vague definitions of "slum areas" and "blighted areas" are virtually identical to those that have been horribly exploited in many other states. As currently written, the factors to determine blight could apply to virtually any home in Alaska and could easily trigger eminent domain. And since the designations are made by "area," only a few properties need to be blighted before officials can destroy an entire neighborhood.

Please put this bill in the trash.

Freedom is not a passive perk.