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**From:** Richard Bishop <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2023 1:24 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Support for HB 83

To: House Finance Committee members:

Please consider my testimony below in support of passing HB 83. Thank you.

Richard H. Bishop

Sent from my iPad

**Subject: CACFA testimony**

My name is Richard Bishop. My principal residence since 1961 has been the Fairbanks area, but I have lived in McGrath and at Lake Minchumina , and worked briefly at Gambell in 1962. I am a wildlife biologist by training, retired from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. During my employment I was assigned to work on ANILCA in Washington DC. After retirement I worked for the Alaska Outdoor Council. I lobbied some at the Alaska Legislature, including on ANILCA, and as a member of Governor Hicel's subsistence advisory committee. I wrote the first draft of the "findings" for his subsistence law.

I strongly support HB83. During its previous life I paid close attention to CACFA's work. After retirement I more actively participated in following its work and sometimes testifying on issues before it. CACFA was diligent and evenhanded in providing a forum for public input on issues of federal management arising from ANCSA and ANILCA. It actively sought information from federal land and fish and wildlife managers, analyzed situations, and reported its findings and recommendations to the public, state and federal agencies, and Alaska state government. In a sense it was an independent "think tank" not bound by the politics of the moment or the existing policies and regulations of state or federal agencies. CACFA provided the means for fresh public input and "fresh air" on policy and regulation by agencies. It's recommendations were logical, practical, and focused on government serving the people, rather than the reverse.

I heard the reverse at one meeting. After a long unproductive discussion about a frustrating situation, a federal employee said, "Well, we have these regulations and we just have to make them work!" Not a peep about changing or improving the regulations to eliminate the problem!

That scenario alone exemplified the value of CACFA for Alaskans.

Please pass HB83. Thank you for considering my perspective.

Richard H Bishop  
[REDACTED]  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
[REDACTED]



Sent from my iPad...

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**From:** Marna Sanford <Marna.Sanford@tananachiefs.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2023 12:34 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** HB83: CACFA

?Members of the House Finance Committee,

Tanana Chiefs Conference writes in opposition to the current version of HB83.

As many of you know, the Tribes that live and work along the rivers of Interior Alaska are in the fight of their lives for the Yukon River salmon. That fight is starting to play out in the committees meetings of the Senate and soon in the committee meetings of this body.

In an effort to reevaluate how Alaskans manage our resources or advise on our resources, it requires that we look to how we assemble the Boards, Commissions and Councils that we, that you, empower to do so.

Not having a seat on this Council that is dedicated to the largest private land owners and arguably the second most impacted by federal land decisions outside of the State of Alaska is a huge oversight. The ANCSA regional association should be advising on these issues given the massive economic impacts that they provide to the state and it's people.

Without Alaska Native representation mandated by statute, we can not offer support for this concept.

Marna Sanford  
Government Legal Affairs Director  
122 1st Ave., Ste. 600  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Phone: 406-546-7505



Sent Via Electronic Mail

Representative Bryce Edgmon  
Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 410  
Juneau AK, 99801  
[Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov)

Representative Neal Foster  
Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 511  
Juneau AK, 99801  
[Representative.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov)

Representative DeLena Johnson  
Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
State Capitol Room 505  
Juneau AK, 99801  
[Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov)

Re: Opposition to HB 83 "An Act reestablishing the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas in Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

Dear Representative Edgmon, Representative Foster, and Representative Johnson:

On behalf of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), I write to oppose HB 83, "An Act reestablishing the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas in Alaska; and providing for an effective date." The intent of HB 83 to re-establish the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas (CACFA) has significant implications for tribal hunting and land use by Alaska Native peoples.

AFN is governed by a 38-member board of directors who serve as tribal, corporate, and regional non-profit leaders in Alaska. AFN membership includes 209 federally recognized tribes, 185 village corporations, 9 regional corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs.

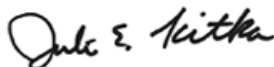
The legal and political framework governing subsistence in Alaska significantly hampers the ability of Alaska Natives to fully provide for their families through access to traditional foods. As such, the State of Alaska's relationship with Alaska Native communities has been fraught with conflict, particularly in the areas of land use management. There are countless examples in Alaska's history where tribal interests have been ignored by State decisions, in which CACFA has given influence to user groups that support efforts to erode the property rights of Alaska Native people.

One example is CACFA's support of the State of Alaska to assert title to RS 2477 right of ways (ROW) throughout the state, including Alaska Native Corporation (ANC) lands. At the 2022 Annual AFN Convention, AFN Delegates passed AFN Resolution 22-14 to stand together and unified in AFN's efforts to protect the lands of Alaska Native people and intend to work together to prevent additional land takings by the State of Alaska through RS 2477. RS 2477 ROWs crisscross lands owned by ANCs. By asserting claims to RS 2477 ROWs, the State of Alaska promotes third-party trespass on ANC lands, which are of vital importance for the continuation of the customary and traditional way of life for Alaska Natives.

It's been 43 years since the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) passed Congress and made such huge designations in land use, such as parks, refuges, and wilderness. ANILCA is a very complex law, and its implementation has had many faults. Rather than setting up the CACFA, we suggest two alternative paths: 1) Suggest the Governor convene the major stakeholders to discuss the history and experiences we have had with the act and formulate priorities for further action and dialogue, and 2) request the Alaska Congressional Delegation to reauthorize the Alaska Land Use Council and obtain an appropriation for expert staffing.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss the details of this letter.

Sincerely,



Julie Kitka

President

Alaska Federation of Natives