

3-22-23

HOUSE BILL 93
PUBLIC & WRITTEN TESTIMONY
HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Thank you, Chair Representative Sumner and the rest of the House Labor, and Commerce Members, for allowing me to testify on House Bill 93.

My name is Joe Young, Owner of Young's Timber Inc in Tok and a big supporter of HB 93.

Young's Timber Inc has been in business since 1993 and has 4 different types of Sawmills producing a wide range of value-added products and has 12 employees.

Quality, white spruce lumber is one of those value-added products.

Young's Timber Inc gets a lot of positive comments from its customers on the quality of lumber it produces compared to the lumber quality that's imported from the lower 48 & Canada into the State of Alaska.

Yet, Young's Timber Inc's lumber isn't graded or certified.

Alaskan Spruce is comparative to Douglas Fir in test loads, compression strength, and elasticity.

House Bill 93 lumber grading training program, lumber grading certificates and use of graded and certified lumber will not only greatly increase Young's Timber Inc's lumber sales but the lumber sales of all Alaskan's Lumber Producers.

House Bill 93 will create timber industry jobs and affordable rural housing.

I recommend to the Labor and Commerce Committee to pass House Bill 93

Another note I have is that Alaskan Value-added Producers need access to a reliable, steady, and long term supply of Alaskan State Timber for success.

Thank you

JOE YOUNG, YOUNG'S TIMBER INC