

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001
907-465-3500



550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1700
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-7450

Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

August 26, 2023

The Honorable Cathy Tilton
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Tilton:

Under the authority vested in me by Article II, Section 15, of the Alaska Constitution, I have vetoed the following bill:

HB 51 AM S (EFD ADD S)

"An Act relating to refrigerants designated as acceptable for use under federal law; relating to firefighting substances; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 51 does not provide alternatives to aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) for firefighting. If AFFF is removed from a community, residents will have no capabilities to fight a large-scale fire. When balancing the environment and life and safety of Alaskans, this bill falls short by removing a lifesaving tool from the toolbox.

Accordingly, because this bill offers no alternatives to AFFF leaving Alaskans vulnerable to a preventable and unfortunate event to happen, I have vetoed the bill. I encourage the legislature to find a sustainable solution to this problem and not just a partial solution.

Additionally, I welcome Representative Wright to reintroduce the original draft of this legislation, which helped Alaskan consumers prepare for the upcoming transition of the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration industry to the next generation of refrigerants. I look forward to working with the legislature to address this issue when we begin the second half of the 33rd Alaska State Legislature in January.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Dunleavy".

Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosure