

H B

3 8

The proposed committee substitute makes three changes to the original bill.

1. Section 1.

Sec.02.47.010. Prohibitions. Originally the bill prohibited used equipment from being brought into the state. The proposed CS, however, provides an exception to that: the exception includes used equipment "made exclusively of glass or metal."

Sec 03.47.020. Importation of Bees. The original bill requires that all bees not on bee combs must be accompanied by a health certificate before they can be allowed into the state. The CS, however, changes this requirement requiring bees to come from "disease free bees" and that the health certificate be signed by a <sup>qualified</sup> apiary inspector.

Sec. 03.47.040. Definitions. (2) in the original bill defines "bee-keeping equipment" (2) in the CS defines "used beekeeping equipment" - the CS does not, however, provide a definition for the latter. Should this definition have been included?

Mr. Fletcher T. Miller  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assn.  
Box B-173  
Anchorage Ak 99504

Feb 28, 1981  
+30°F Partly Cloudy

Mr. Miller,

It is really sad to hear of Adolf Zuh's death -  
he was a fellow worker in geology as well as a  
beekeeper.

Here is a copy of a bill that the Interior  
Beekeepers believe will be enforceable and not cost  
the State a bundle of money to enforce. Let me  
know if it is acceptable to the beekeepers down  
your way? I believe that a single bill of simple  
nature has the best chance of passage, as you do.  
If we can convince the Legislators that all the  
beekeepers in Alaska are behind one bill, they  
are more apt to act on it.

Hal Livingston

(over)

NORTH TO THE FUTURE IN 1967!



I'm sending an information copy of the proposed Honeybee Act to Nick Carney of the Division of Agriculture and would like to hear what you think of the proposal, hopefully within the next 2 weeks, so that a final version can go to the Legislature this year in time for it to be acted upon.

Sal



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BILL ANALYSIS

Department <b>Natural Resources</b>	Sponsor (Principal) <b>Malone</b>	Bill Number <b>HB318</b>
Department Position <b>avored</b>		
Division Director <b>Carney</b>	Date <b>3-17-81</b>	Commissioner  
Date  		

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE USE

Comments:

<input type="checkbox"/> Position Noted	By	Date
---	----	------

SUMMARY

1. a) Related Bills (Similar or Conflicting) <b>none</b>	1. b) Other Agencies Affected by Bill <b>none</b>
2. a) Organizational Support for Bill  <b>Beekeepers in State Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assn Kenai Peninsula Beekeepers Assn</b>	2. b) Organizational Opposition to Bill  <b>none, except for phrase restricting import of all used equipment.</b>

3. Program Effects of Bill

4. Fiscal Impact:  None  Fiscal Notes Attached

5. Amendments Proposed:  
  
**eliminate phrase "not on bee combs" in line 12**

6. Comments:  
  
**Help from other states may be solicited until the industry expands enough to warrant a State apiarist. A needed addition to our authority.**

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. HB318  
 Title Control of Bee disease  
 Requested by Malone, Roger & Phillips Date 3/11/81

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Department of Natural Resources  
 Program Category Affected Economic Development  
 Budget Request Unit(s) Affected Ag Management

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 82.	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
100 PERSONAL SERVICES	-0-	40.0	40.0	65.0	65.0	
200 TRAVEL	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	
300 CONTRACTUAL	12.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	
400 COMMODITIES	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	
500 EQUIPMENT	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
<b>TOTAL</b>						

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

	15.1	50.1	50.1	75.1	75.1
GENERAL FUND					
FEDERAL FUNDS					
OTHER (Specify)					

POSITIONS

	-0-	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0
FULL TIME					
PART TIME					
TEMPORARY					

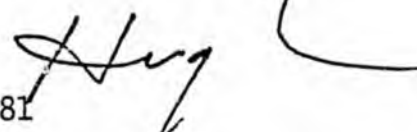
III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III')

- Assumes: 1) Regulation and inspection through FY82 done by contract  
 2) 1/2 time Entomologist in FY83 (1/2 by u of A Exp Station)  
 3) Full time Entomologist in FY85

IV. DATE March 17, 1981 PREPARED BY Domonic L Carney, Director  
 AGENCY Dept of Natural Resources/Div of Agric  
 PHONE 376-3276  
 Original: Legislative Finance  
 cc: Budget and Management  
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ramona Barnes, Chairman  
Subcommittee on House Bill 318

FROM: Hugh Malone 

DATE: April 23, 1981

RE: House Bill 318  
"An Act relating to the control of bee disease."

---

Attached please find CSHB 318 for the subcommittee's consideration.

CSHB 318 (Res) is sought to correct certain problems pointed out during the teleconference held on March 31, 1981.

Section 1.

- Sec. 03.47.010. Prohibits the importation into Alaska of used beekeeping woodenware.
- Sec. 03.47.020 This section clarifies that all bees not on bee combs imported into the State shall be accompanied by a health certificate which states that they come from apiaries which are free of all bee diseases and which is designed by an apiary inspector.
- Sec. 03.47.040 Deletes the unnecessary language "any any device used to handle bees."

January 29, 1981

From: Kenai Peninsula Beekeepers Association

To: Members of the State of Alaska Legislature

Subject: Proposed legislation on prevention of disease to the  
Beekeepers Industry.

The Kenai Beekeepers Association wants to see the following:

1. Disease free environment for Alaska bees and the following are the items required to insure such:

A. "All combless package bees imported into Alaska shall be accompanied by a certificate of health stating that they are free of all bee diseases". (Taken from Cook Inlet proposal)

This inspection shall be accomplished at point of origin by a State Bee Inspector or qualified representative.

B. Permit required for importation of used beekeeping equipment from Division of Agriculture. Permit to be worded by Division of Agriculture. Purpose of permit is for notification to Division of Agriculture for purpose of inspection by State of Alaska Bee Inspector. Permit to include:

Place of origin

Time of Arrival in Alaska

Place of arrival

Carrier

Destination

Certificate of health must accompany any used beekeeping equipment as to disease free status.

2. Taken from Cook Inlet Beekeepers Association proposal:

The Division of Agriculture shall have the authority to take appropriate action in dealing with any reported or discovered cases of bee disease and to prevent their spread.

3. The acquisition of a State Entomologist (Bee Inspector) is mandatory to initiate the desired program. Nick Carney of Division of Agriculture suggested that a State Entomologist could be divided, both use and cost, with the State Agricultural Experiment program where he could be utilized year round for Bee Inspection and Agricultural Experimentation.

4. We wish to acknowledge the effort and time spent by the Cook Inlet Beekeepers Association but feel strongly that the simpler the bill the easier and more effective it can be enforced and the better chance we have of getting this bill passed and implemented.

We also feel that prevention of bee disease is our greatest concern now. That legislation concerning labeling, etc. can be accomplished at a later date if the need is found to exist.

Edmund K. Knutsen  
Box 1525  
Soldotna, Ak 99669

March 21, 1981

REP

~~Senator~~ Hugh Malone  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Ak 99811

Dear ~~Senator~~ <sup>Hugh</sup> Malone:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 1981 and for the work you have done on the legislative measure on control of bee disease.

I am inclosing a copy of the proposal by Harold Livingston on used beekeeping equipment entering the State. Harold is from Fairbanks and spoke on Beekeeping in Alaska at the Western Apiculture Society when they met in Victoria, British Columbia last August. As you will see from his article he did an extensive study on the subject for his article.

Harold has been in contact with several beekeepers in Fairbanks, North Pole, and Delta Area and they are all in favor of the legislative control over used bee equipment coming into the State.

There are three suggested methods of treating the Bee disease called American Foul Brood:

- A. Ethlene Oxide Fumigation
- B. Boiling Lye Water Bath
- C. Burning bees and equipment to ashes and burying the ashes at least 18 inches deep in the ground.

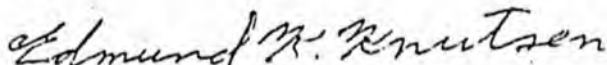
Equipment for the Ethlene Oxide Fumigation can be purchased from the New Miskoe Engineering Co., Little Pond Rd., Concord, New Hampshire, Zip 03301. Telephone 603-225-6546. I have not learned the cost or the availability to move it around the State.

The Cook Inlet Asso. of Beekeepers seem to be in favor of the proposed legislation as submitted.

If we can stop the incoming of used equipment I feel we can continue to keep Alaska nearly disease free.

Again, thank you for your time and effort in the proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund K. Knutsen

Cc: Don Gilman  
Pat O'Connell  
Fred F. Zharoff, Co-Chairman  
House Resource Committee

Hal Livingston  
1812 Central Ave.

Latitude 64° 50'  
Longitude 147° 40'  
Elevation 429 ft.

Fairbanks Alaska 99701

Feb 28, 1981 12" snow  
+ 36° F Clear except ~~ice~~

Ed Knudsen,

Dear Ed,

Enclosed is a check for one package (3#) of bees and a Buckfast Queen from Navasota. \$30<sup>00</sup>. Let me know if that is not enough for the freight when Mike Crawford picks them up in Anch.

Also attached is a copy of the proposed legislation related to control of bee diseases in Alaska. I've talked it over with Dave Tozier and a number of the other beekeepers here. They are willing to back this version as workable.

Sincerely,

Hal Livingston

My Phone No. is 456-7202

in case Mike wants to call me.

(over)

For an Act entitled: "AN ACT TO MAINTAIN THE HEALTH OF HONEYBEES IN ALASKA".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

Section 1. The importation into Alaska of used beekeeping woodenware, accompanied by bees or not, shall be prohibited. Used beekeeping woodenware is defined as any wood, straw, plastic, or composition material fabricated into top boards, inner covers, hive boxes, frames, bottom boards, feeders, pollen traps, or other beehive furniture normally used to house honeybees, that has ever been in contact with honeybees.

Section 2. All combless package honeybees imported into Alaska shall be accompanied by a certificate of health, signed by a qualified Apiary Inspector, stating that they come from disease-free apiaries.

Section 3. The Department of Agriculture shall have the authority to take appropriate action in dealing with any reported or discovered cases of honeybee brood diseases to prevent their spread within Alaska. Appropriate action shall consist of supervising one of the following:

- a. Disinfection of equipment by fumigation with ethylene oxide.
- b. Disinfection of equipment by boiling lye-water bath.
- c. Burning bees and equipment to ashes and burying the ashes at least 18 inches deep in the ground.

Mr. Fletcher T. Miller  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assn.  
Box B-173  
Anchorage Ak 99504

Feb 28, 1981  
+30°F Partly Cloudy

Mr. Miller,

It is really sad to hear of Adolf Zuh's death -  
he was a fellow worker in geology as well as a  
beekeeper.

Here is a copy of a bill that the Interior  
Beekeepers believe will be enforceable and not cost  
the state a bundle of money to enforce. Let me  
know if it is acceptable to the beekeepers down  
your way? I believe that a single bill of simple  
nature has the best chance of passage, as you do.  
If we can convince the Legislators that all the  
beekeepers in Alaska are behind one bill, they  
are more apt to act on it.

Hal Livingston

(over)

NORTH TO THE FUTURE IN 1967!



I'm sending an information copy of the proposed Honeybee Act to Nick Carney of the Division of Agriculture and would like to hear what you think of the proposal, hopefully within the next 2 weeks, so that a final version can go to the Legislature this year in time for it to be acted upon.

Sal

Mar 8, 1981

Hal Livingston  
1812 Central Ave  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Hal

The proposed Legislation that the Interior beekeepers have come up with deals with the entire picture more completely than what we have.

Due to the nature of the case in that beekeeping is a relative new thing across the State there has been no real contact on a general basis with the other beekeepers.

When we started the ball rolling down this way last fall we felt the urgency to get something on the books. We had no reading as to how the other beekeepers of the State would react to the legislation and what the Agriculture Dept. position would be.

I feel definitely that it should be spelled out exactly how diseased bees should be dealt with as you people did.

Section 3-A is the best way of dealing with diseased equipment but due to the cost of the equip. and other things it is a ways down the road but feel this should be included in the legislation and would be something to work toward.

Section 3-C has for more years than I can remember been the best and most effective way of controlling the spread of disease.

Section 3-E has also been used over the years. I have personally run many pieces of equipment through this process.

My only concern with this portion is not what it says but what it doesn't say.

Is the cutting out of the combs from the frames and rendering of the wax going to be allowed? The handling of diseased material is a serious matter. The woods are full of beginner hobbyist beekeepers who until a few months ago didn't know that there was anything such as a bee disease.

There is more than one commercial beekeeper in this end of the world who have had no real experience with bee disease and handling of diseased equipment.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from James C. Bach, Chief Apiary Insp. from the State of Washington in reply to my question to him in regard to the matter of individual rendering of diseased combs.



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BILL ANALYSIS

Department <b>Natural Resources</b>	Sponsor (Principal) <b>Malone</b>	Bill Number <b>HB318</b>
Department Position <b>avored</b>		
Division Director <b>Carney</b>	Date <b>3-17-81</b>	Commissioner  
Date  		

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE USE

Comments:

Position Note: By Date

SUMMARY

1. a) Related Bills (Similar or Conflicting) <b>none</b>	1. b) Other Agencies Affected by Bill <b>none</b>
2. a) Organizational Support for Bill  <b>Beekeepers in State Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assn Kenai Peninsula Beekeepers Assn</b>	2. b) Organizational Opposition to Bill  <b>none, except for phrase restricting import of all used equipment.</b>

3. Program Effects of Bill

4. Fiscal Impact:  None  Fiscal Note Attached

5. Amendments Proposed:  
**eliminate phrase "not on bee combs" in line 12**

6. Comments:  
**Help from other states may be solicited until the industry expands enough to warrant a State apiarist. A needed addition to our authority.**

Cook

Original sponsors: Malone, Rogers  
and Phillips

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 318 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the control of bee disease."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 \* Section 1. AS 03 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 47. BEES AND BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT.

10 Sec. 03.47.010. PROHIBITION. The importation into the state of  
11 bees on bee combs ~~and the importation of used beekeeping equipment,~~  
12 ~~except equipment and accessories of glass or metal, is prohibited.~~

13 Sec. 03.47.020. IMPORTATION OF BEES. All bees not on bee combs  
14 imported into the state shall be accompanied by a health certificate  
15 which states that they ~~are from apiaries which are free of all bee~~  
16 ~~diseases and which is signed by an apitary inspector determined to be~~  
17 ~~qualified by the department.~~

18 Sec. 03.47.030. DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. (a) The department  
19 shall investigate reported cases of diseased bees and cases of diseased  
20 bees discovered by the department.

21 (b) The department shall take any action necessary to prevent the  
22 spread of bee diseases, including destroying bees and beekeeping equip-  
23 ment found to be contaminated.

24 (c) The department shall adopt regulations necessary to carry out  
25 the purposes of this chapter.

26 Sec. 03.47.040. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

27 (1) "bees" means honey producing insects of the genus Apis  
28 and includes the adults, eggs, larvae, pupae, and other immature stages  
29 of the insects;

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29

(2) "~~XXXX~~ beekeeping equipment" means equipment which has been used to feed or house bees, including hive boxes, frames, supers, lids, bottom boards, and bee combs.

FROM TERMINAL LJ22 ON PRINTER LJH6; DATE=81090, TIME=151929

MSG 81-00010447 PRTY 1 03/31/81 15:05:25 ORIG: LF01 IN= 0003 OUT= 0004  
FROM: TAMMY **FRBX** TO: JACK IN JUNEAU  
TARGET: LJ22 SUBJ: 770 PART BEE KEEPERS PAGE 0001

NO PART. AT THIS TIME FROM FAIRBANKS.

THANK YOU

Anchorage, Alaska  
March 23, 1981

Rep. Ramona Barnes  
Pouch V. Juneau, Ak.

Dear Ramona:

I do appreciate your replying to the letter I sent to the legislators regarding Bee Disease and Honey regulations.

I didn't get many replys but I wasn't really asking for any. I wanted to inform the Legislators on the subject. It is scomething new and different and you people wouldn't have much of a source to draw on.

The Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assoc. had a bill prepared that Arlis Sturgulewski was going to introduce in the Senate. That hasn't been done yet which is all right because the Interior Bee Keepers came up with a proposal which is more complete than ours.

When we started we had no idea what response we would have from the beekeepers across the State so we started easy. We didn't want the thing to go down the tube.

You have or will have received the Interior Beekeepers Proposal soon.

Hal Livingston (their spokesman) said that he was going to contact some legislator and have it introduced. I don't know if this in the program now or not. I havn't been in contact with within the last several days.

I don't know why any knowledgeable person, beekeeper or other wise would have any objection to their proposal. It covers the subject well and more complete than House Bill 318.

I don't feel much improvement could be made on the Interior Proposal. it covers the subject well and gives methods dealing with the disease in tried and true ways by beekeepers who are experienced in these matters.

We have a chanc' of doing things right in regard to dealing with bee disease. As far as we knot there is no disease in the State now but if and when it gets here we need knowledgeable people to identify and control it.

Bee disease is a problem to the beekeepers and no one else. The beekeepers want legislat on to prevent and control disease in this State if and when it should show up.

The disease is spread almost entirely through the use of used equipment.

The Interior Beekeepers have come up with a proposal to prevent and control the discase which we of the Cook Inlet Beekeepers Asso. totally endorse.

House Bill 318 prohibits used bec equipment.

Sec 1. of the interior proposal spells out what beekeeping equipment is so it leaves no doubt to the beekeepers or enforcing agency. We are requesting that this will be included in the current bull for us. It wont hurt anyone but will prevent problems in the future.

Ramona Barnes (2) Mar 23, 1981

Sec 2 of the Interior Proposal spells out the method of dealing with any disease that is found.

The three things listed are time proven and we feel it should be included in the bill and not left up to some agency who has no experience or knowledge to write the regulations.

These are from knowledgeable beekeepers who will be effected by the Statute.

There will always be judgment matters in this as a police officer does in deciding what particular direction should be taken in a given situation but feel the main thing should be spelled out.

It bothers us that the writing will be left up to an agency that may or may not have the expertice and understanding of the problem, writing something which the beekeepers would have to live with which may not be the best for them or the problem.

Again I say this expertice is in the Alaska Beekeeping Industry. That has been shown in the Interior proposal. There is no need for some outside group spending a lot of money to write regulations that they know nothing about.

The conditions in Alaska are UNIQUE. Everything they do outside doesn't necessarily mean that it is good for Alaska.

If the Proposal of the Interior Beekeepers is adopted it will be complete and everyone will know whats going on and it can be implimented immediately.

I trust you will work toward this end for us and inform your colleges of our needs.

If you have any further questions please contact us.

Thanking You

*Fletcher F. Miller*

Fletcher F. Miller (sec.)  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assoc.  
Box. 8-173 Anch., Ak. 99504

cc

Hugh Malone  
Randy Phillips  
Brian Rogers

(Interior Beekeepers Proposal)

For an Act entitled: "AN ACT TO MAINTAIN THE HEALTH OF HONEYBEES IN ALASKA"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

Section 1. The importation into Alaska of used beekeeping woodenware, accompanied by bees or not, shall be prohibited. Used beekeeping woodenware is defined as any wood, straw, plastic, or composition material fabricated into top boards, inner covers, hive boxes, frames, bottom boards, feeders, pollen traps, or other beehive furniture normally used to house honeybees, that has ever been in contact with honeybees.

Section 2. All combless package honeybees imported into Alaska shall be accompanied by a certificate of health, signed by a qualified Apiary Inspector, stating that they came from disease-free apiaries.

Section 3. The Department of Agriculture shall have the authority to take appropriate action in dealing with any reported or discovered cases of honeybee brood diseases to prevent their spread within Alaska. Appropriate action shall consist of supervising one of the following:

- a. Disinfection of equipment by fumigation with ethylene oxide.
- b. Disinfection of equipment by boiling lye-water bath.
- c. Burning bees and equipment to ashes and burying the ashes at least 18 inches deep in the ground.

Mar 8, 1981

Hal Livingston  
1812 Central Ave  
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701

Dear Hal

The proposed Legislation that the Interior beekeepers have come up with deals with the entire picture more completely than what we have.

Due to the nature of the case in that beekeeping is a relative new thing across the State there has been no real contact on a general basis with the other beekeepers.

When we started the ball rolling down this way last fall we felt the urgency to get something on the books. We had no reading as to how the other beekeepers of the State would react to the legislation and what the Agriculture Dept. position would be.

I feel definitely that it should be spelled out exactly how diseased bees should be dealt with as you people did.

Section 3-A is the best way of dealing with diseased equipment but due to the cost of the equip. and other things it is a ways down the road but feel this should be included in the legislation and would be something to work toward.

Section 3-C has for more years than I can remember been the best and most effective way of controlling the spread of disease.

Section 3-B has also been used over the years. I have personally run many peices of equipment through this process.

My only concern with this portion is not what it says but what it doesn't say.

Is the cutting out of the combs from the frames and rendering of the wax going to be allowed? The handling of diseased material is a serious matter. The woods are full of beginner hobbyist beekeepers who until a few months ago didn't know that there was anything such as a bee disease.

There is more than one commercial beekeeper in this end of the world who have had no real experience with bee disease and handling of diseased equipment.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from James C. Bach, Chief Apiary Insp. from the State of Washington in reply to my question to him in regard to the matter of individual rendering of diseased combs.

Hal Livingston (2) 3-8-81

QUOTE "Rendering by the individual causes me some apprehensions. Most Apiarists do not recognize the need for sanitation and cleanliness around a disease situation. In Washington they have been allowed to render their own disease. When I came in we adhered to the letter of the law. We found anything from a poor job of rendering with comb still hanging from the wires to no rendering because of supposed breakdown of the equipment. Also some of the equipment to be rendered mysteriously turned up in the warehouse. What I am saying is that the inspector loses control of the situation."

I have coordinated the proposed bee legislation and personally feel there would be strong backing for your proposal.

The other thing that isn't covered is who would do the inspecting?

The Agriculture Dept. wants it mandatory that an entomologist be tied with a disease bill. He would take care of the inspection work and divide his time with other work that they would have for him to do.

What is your position on this?

As I have stated before the entomologist would have to be an Apiculturist also in order to be a help and not a hinderance to the beekeeping industry.

The other thing is that the Agriculture Dept. would want to write the regulations dealing with disease, which they have no business doing since they don't know anything about it.

The interior beekeepers proposal proves that the beekeeping industry has what it takes to write something that will take care of the problem without any one else getting in to muddy up the water.

The beekeepers can come up with what is best for the beekeeping industry better than anyone else.

Will be waiting for you to get in contact with us again soon on this matter.

Fletcher F. Miller (sec.)

*Fletcher F. Miller*  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Asso.  
Box 8-173 Anch., Ak. 99504

12  
PUP

SUBJECT

BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY LEGISLATION

Feb. 15, 1981

Dear Legislator:

In my home State of Colorado they are having to remove thousands of nice big Chinese Elm trees due to the fact that they have the Dutch Elm disease of which THERE IS NO CURE.

Now if you were in an area and were in the need of shade trees but did not have the Dutch Elm disease in your area it wouldn't be very logical to ship in diseased trees from an area which had the disease which would affect the trees that you currently have.

This is a paralell of what the Kenai Peninsula Beekeepers Asso. is proposing in that we allow used bee equipment in to the State which carries INCURABLE bee disease. Their reason is of the possible need of equipment in the Rape Seed Project. New equipment is readily available (I don't sell equipment).

I trust that they are doing this due to the lack of understanding and not as a result of some special interest.

The Kenai Asso. is also proposing, at the suggestion of Nick Carney of the Ag. Dept that it would be mandatory that there be an Entomologist hired to do their work and also do the bee inspecting. Now this is fine if he is also an Apiculturist who would be qualified to be an inspector and have proper knowledge on how to handle bee disease problems.

The worst thing that could happen to the bee industry would be to get an Entomologist who knew nothing about bees. It would be like trying to communicate with a tree.

Now the other aspect of the Bee Industry Legislation is in regard to the labeling of honey.

The adulteration of honey is becoming almost epidemic in proportion in the So. 48. Corn Syrup is being mixed with honey and is being sold as honey. They are using as high as 90% syrup.

We need legislation specivically dealing with honey. We are proposing that the Oklahoma Statute be used. It spells out exactly what honey is and covers the adulteration problem. It does this in plain english.

Nothing can be called honey unless it is 100% bee produced from flowers. There are ways of getting around this now. Even if the product was put in the hive by the bees it wouldn't necessarily mean that the product was pure honey. If the bees were fed Isomerized syrup or syrup made from granulated sugar that is what you would have. We need legislation & education on this matter. This is the reason ofr the need of a statute which spells out what honey really is.

People are willing to pay a much better price for Alaska Honey dut to several reasons. One is the fact that it is Alaskan. Another is that it is free from possible contamination frcm pesticides as is the case in the Lower 48.

Each type of flower produces its own flavor of honey. The plants in Alaska in areas of concentration would probably be different than elsewhere. This would give a different honey than other places.

Legislators - Bee Industry (2) Feb 15, 1981

We are proposing legislation that would require any honey shipped into the State and packed here to be labeled as to the place of origin or the words imported printed on the label.

At the present time honey is being sold and people are assuming it is Alaskan Honey because it is packed in Alaska. Later they find out this is not the case and many are very unhappy.

We are not trying to stop outside honey from coming in. There are major packers that send honey into the State through the various stores. This is all pre packaged and there is no problem with this. Everyone knows it isn't Alaskan Honey.

We don't care if others bring in honey from the outside and pack it here. We just want it to show that it's not Alaskan Honey.

The people who produce honey here would probably want to put on the label that it was produced here. We are proposing no labeling requirement for any honey produced in the State. It would have to be 100% honey though.

The labeling of outside honey would encourage the honey production in this State. This is what we want and the State should also be interested in furthering Alaska industry.

A word of caution to the beginner beekeepers and potential beekeepers and others. NO honey bought in a store or elsewhere should be fed to bees. This is the other main source of bee disease. The Bee Disease spores are carried in honey and equipment. NOTE - This in no way affects honey for human consumption.

It has been reported that granulated honey has been offered for sale in this State for bee feed. This is the worst thing a person could do. I trust that the people who are doing this are doing so in ignorance.

We are asking your support in this matter. If you have any questions please contact us.

Thanking you,

*Fletcher F. Miller*

Fletcher F. Miller (sec.)  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Asso.  
Box 8-173 Anch Ak. 99504

Bill Markis Pres. 333-7657

Feb. 8, 1981

Kenai Beekeepers Asso.  
Box 1525 Soldtna, Ak. 99699

Fellow Beekeepers:

In response of your letter to Rep. Hugh Malone of Jan. 29, 1981.

You have missed the whole point in regard to the honey regulations. The proposal reads "any honey packed, processed or sold in Alaska from any source OTHER THAN ALASKA --- "

This deals only with honey shipped into this State and processed and re-packed here.

Do you have a problem with this? Reply requested. Be specific.

It would have no effect on all major brands or any other coming into Alaska already packaged and labeled.

If honey is produced and packed here in Alaska there is no labeling requirement. The intent of the regulation is to prevent Outside honey being pawned off as Alaskan honey.

Do you have any objection to this. Reply requested. Be specific.

The adulteration of honey in the South 48 is a major problem. The proposed legislation would hurt no one who doesn't adulterate or intend to do so. There would be very little inconvenience to label change.

All labels on hand could be used on honey produced in Alaska.

In spite of what Nick Carney says there is nothing I have found yet that will deal with the situation in any reasonable manner.

In Nicks letter to me of Jan. 15 he says existing statutes concerning labeling (AS 45.75) are administered by the Weights and measures people. I picked up that statute along with another one and read them. They only deal with Weights and Measures in regard to labeling. Their concern is that the contents of the container match the amount stated on the label.

I have been in contact with the Food and Drug office here and the fellow said he can understand why we want State regulations to cover our problem.

I have also been in contact with the Consumer Protection people. I will follow with a letter on all this when I get it together.

Alaska isn't without honey adulteration problems.

#### Bee Disease

In paragraph 4 in your letter states that the simpler the bill the easier and more effective it can be enforced and the better chance of getting the bill passed and implemented.

With this we agree 100%. There is nothing more simple and easily enforced than a total ban on all Bees on Combs and Used Equipment..

All shippers and beekeepers can be notified of the ban through the bee industry publications.

All bee equipment coming over the Hy. can be stopped at the border like everything else that is not allowed to come in.

You would need a hundred pencil pushers writing regulations and permits. The less we have of this the better for the taxpayer and everyone else concerned. We want something that is adequate and practical.

We have done our home work on this. We as I have stated before that we sent inquiries to all State and Province Head Inspectors. We received 43 replys. There were only two or so that opposed the total ban of bees on combs. They wern't aware of the lack of migratory beekeeping. I doubt that Migratory beekeeping will ever be a thing here in this State. It is an awfully long way to transport bees from here to the South for wintering.

Any bees that would come in from Canada couldn't return there because they have a ban of all bees on combs. There are a number of States that have a ban like we propose.

These men that we inquired of are dealing with the disease problem daily. You would be surprised at the number that recommend a total ban.

I am interested in finding out what you have to back up your position. Our letters are from Beekeepers in the thick of the battle not pencil pushers with no expertice or knowledge on the subject.

Kenai Beekeepers Asso. 2-8-81 (2)

Knowledgeable beekeepers know that Bee Disease can't be detected in used equipment without the aid of a microscope. Neither can it be detected in the brood of bees which drugs have been used to control disease.

A certificate of inspection isn't worth any more than the paper that it is written on.

As you will see from Mr. Footes letter that a certificate of inspection is given on inspection of 2 or 3 frames of 15 colonies out of 100. This means that 85 havn't been inspected.

There is no way a person could guarantee that the bees were disease free. If every one of the colonies was inspected and no disease was found the use of drugs could cover it up or if no drugs were used the spores could be present to show up in the brood later.

You are buying a pig in a poke by accepting used equipment even though it has a certification of inspection on it. Neither is there a guarantee that the equipment is the same that was inspected.

I have been involved in the queen raising and package bee production and shipment in Texas and can testify first hand as to how things work in a practical manner.

Enclosed is a copy of letters from the current and past Presidents of the Apiary Inspectors of America.

The past Pres. Gerald Stevens who is a third generation commercial beekeeper and now Head Inspector for the State of New York heading up a force of 20 inspetors advises us to ban the importatiom of comb, used equipment and ANYTHING that might carry the spores of AFB (pollen ect) except that for human consumption.

Including this and other recommendations is far stronger than what we are proposing. He and others are the ones in the know.

He further states it would be a mistake to start "LOOSE" and try to tighten things after the problems have compounded.

There is no use trying to lock the barn door after the horse is gone.

We aren't playing "tiddly winks". The whole beekeeping industry future is at stake. Some are very short sighted or ignorant of the problem since we have the opportunity to do things differently due to the lack of disease. We would like to keep it that way. There is NO WAY you can delay it long by allowing used equipment to be brought in. You will then be playing "catch up" all the time with unnecessary expense if its not done right to begin with.

I don't know how many colonies of bees that the rape seed project will need. I don't think it will cause much of a problem by not allowing used equipment to come in. I do know what kind of a problem we can expect if it is.

One Delta beekeeper brought in New equipment and had package bees shipped in. Another took out a state loan for 100 colonies and then defaulted on the loan. He abandon without taking any of the honey. The bees (if they survived) and the equipment is still there. This would be a good start for some new comer.

It would be very foolish for any one to come in from the South 48 and to go into beekeeping with the potential not proven. If they did there would be a lot more equipment idle.

Our interest should be in building Alaska Industry not some fly by night operation that will go belly up.

Copies to be sent to all that you sent your letter to plus other Legislators and to Beekeepers across the State.

Fletcher F. Miller (sec.)

*Fletcher F. Miller*

Cook Inlet Beekeepers Asso.  
Box 8-173 Anch Ak. 99504

Edmund K. Knutsen  
Box 1525  
Soldotna, Ak 99669

March 21, 1981

Rep

~~Senator~~ Hugh Malone  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Ak 99811

Dear ~~Senator~~ <sup>Hugh</sup> Malone:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 1981 and for the work you have done on the legislative measure on control of bee disease.

I am inclosing a copy of the proposal by Harold Livingston on used beekeeping equipment entering the State. Harold is from Fairbanks and spoke on Beekeeping in Alaska at the Western Apiculture Society when they met in Victoria, British Columbia last August. As you will see from his article he did an extensive study on the subject for his article.

Harold has been in contact with several beekeepers in Fairbanks, North Pole, and Delta Area and they are all in favor of the legislative control over used bee equipment coming into the State.

There are three suggested methods of treating the Bee disease called American Foul Brood:

- A. Ethlene Oxide Fumigation
- B. Boiling Lye Water Bath
- C. Burning bees and equipment to ashes and burying the ashes at least 18 inches deep in the ground.

Equipment for the Ethlene Oxide Fumigation can be purchased from the New Miskoe Engineering Co., Little Pond Rd., Concord, New Hampshire, Zip 03301. Telephone 603-225-6546. I have not learned the cost or the availability to move it around the State.

The Cook Inlet Asso. of Beekeepers seem to be in favor of the proposed legislation as submitted.

If we can stop the incoming of used equipment I feel we can continue to keep Alaska nearly disease free.

Again, thank you for your time and effort in the proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

*Edmund K. Knutsen*  
Edmund K. Knutsen

Cc: Don Gilman  
Pat O'Connell  
Fred F. Zharoff, Co-Chairman  
House Resource Committee

Hal Livingston  
1812 Central Ave.

Latitude 64° 50'  
Longitude 147° 40'  
Elevation 429 ft.

Fairbanks Alaska 99701  
Feb 28, 1981 12" snow  
+36° F Clear except ~~ice fog~~

Ed Knudsen,

Dear Ed,

Enclosed is a check for our package (3#) of bees and a Buckfast Queen from Navasota. \$30.00. Let me know if that is not enough for the freight when Mike Crawford picks them up in Anch.

Also attached is a copy of the proposed legislation related to control of bee diseases in Alaska. I've talked it over with Dave Tozier and a number of the other beekeepers here. They are willing to back this version as workable.

Sincerely,

Hal Livingston

My Phone No. is 456-7202  
in case Mike wants to call me.

(over)

For an Act entitled: "AN ACT TO MAINTAIN THE HEALTH OF HONEYBEES IN ALASKA".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

Section 1. The importation into Alaska of used beekeeping woodenware, accompanied by bees or not, shall be prohibited. Used beekeeping woodenware is defined as any wood, straw, plastic, or composition material fabricated into top boards, inner covers, hive boxes, frames, bottom boards, feeders, pollen traps, or other beehive furniture normally used to house honeybees, that has ever been in contact with honeybees.

Section 2. All combless package honeybees imported into Alaska shall be accompanied by a certificate of health, signed by a qualified Apiary Inspector, stating that they come from disease-free apiaries.

Section 3. The Department of Agriculture shall have the authority to take appropriate action in dealing with any reported or discovered cases of honeybee brood diseases to prevent their spread within Alaska. Appropriate action shall consist of supervising one of the following:

- a. Disinfection of equipment by fumigation with ethylene oxide.
- b. Disinfection of equipment by boiling lye-water bath.
- c. Burning bees and equipment to ashes and burying the ashes at least 18 inches deep in the ground.

Mr. Fletcher T. Miller  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assn.  
Box 8-173  
Anchorage Ak 99504

Feb 28, 1981  
+30°F Partly Cloudy

Mr. Miller,

It is really sad to hear of Adolf Kuhns death -  
he was a fellow worker in geology as well as a  
beekeeper.

Here is a copy of a bill that the Interior  
Beekeepers believe will be enforceable and not cost  
the state a bundle of money to enforce. Let me  
know if it is acceptable to the beekeepers down  
your way? I believe that a single bill of simple  
nature has the best chance of passage, as you do.  
If we can convince the Legislators that all the  
beekeepers in Alaska are behind one bill, they  
are more apt to act on it.

Hal Livingston

(over)

NORTH TO THE FUTURE IN 1967!



I'm sending an information copy of the proposed Honeybee Act to Nick Carney of the Division of Agriculture and would like to hear what you think of the proposal, hopefully within the next 2 weeks, so that a final version can go to the Legislature this year in time for it to be acted upon.

*[Signature]*

Mar 8, 1981

Hal Livingston  
1812 Central Ave  
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701

Dear Hal

The proposed Legislation that the Interior beekeepers have come up with deals with the entire picture more completely than what we have.

Due to the nature of the case in that beekeeping is a relative new thing across the State there has been no real contact on a general basis with the other beekeepers.

When we started the ball rolling down this way last fall we felt the urgency to get something on the books. We had no reading as to how the other beekeepers of the State would react to the legislation and what the Agriculture Dept. position would be.

I feel definitely that it should be spelled out exactly how diseased bees should be dealt with as you people did.

Section 3-A is the best way of dealing with diseased equipment but due to the cost of the equip. and other things it is a ways down the road but feel this should be included in the legislation and would be something to work toward.

Section 3-C has for more years than I can remember been the best and most effective way of controlling the spread of disease.

Section 3-B has also been used over the years. I have personally run many peices of equipment through this process.

My only concern with this portion is not what it says but what it doesn't say.

Is the cutting out of the combs from the frames and rendering of the wax going to be allowed? The handling of diseased material is a serious matter. The woods are full of beginner hobbyist beekeepers who until a few months ago didn't know that there was anything such as a bee disease.

There is more than one commercial beekeeper in this end of the world who have had no real experience with bee disease and handling of diseased equipment.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from James C. Bach, Chief Apiary Insp. from the State of Washington in reply to my question to him in regard to the matter of individual rendering of diseased combs.



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BILL ANALYSIS

Department Natural Resources	Sponsor (Principal) Malone	Bill Number HB318
Department Position favored		
Division Director Carney	Date 3-17-81	Commissioner Date

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE USE

Comments:

Position Noted      By \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_

SUMMARY

1. a) Related Bills (Similar or Conflicting) none	1. b) Other Agencies Affected by Bill none
2. a) Organizational Support for Bill Beekeepers in State Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assn Kenai Peninsula Beekeepers Assn	2. b) Organizational Opposition to Bill none, except for phrase restricting import of all used equipment.

3. Program Effects of Bill

4. Fiscal Impact:       None       Fiscal Note Attached

5. Amendments Proposed:  
eliminate phrase "not on bee combs" in line 12

6. Comments:  
Help from other states may be solicited until the industry expands enough to warrant a State apiarist. A needed addition to our authority.

SERVING INTERIOR ALASKA'S BEEKEEPERS  
**Hives & Honey**

SALES:  
3/4 MILE HURST ROAD  
NORTH POLE, ALASKA

APIARY  
PHONE  
(907) 488-6484

MAIL:  
S. R. BOX 80632  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701

April 20, 1981

Rep. Bob Bettisworth  
Fouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Bob:

Here's my belated, coffee-stained questionnaire. Have at it.

Mostly I'm writing about H.B. 318, what beekeepers refer to as the "Bee Bill," currently (I believe) in Resources. The Bill as introduced by Malone et al needed some rewriting. I'm sure you have the suggested changes as presented by Harold Livingston of Fairbanks. Hal's tendered Act is comprehensive and definitive, specifically listing accepted means of dealing with diseased honey bee colonies if and when they are discovered. It also defines what consists of "used beekeeping woodenware," which is essential in such a proposed Bill. We discussed and agreed upon Hal's proposal before he sent it to you folks, and copies were sent to the interested beekeepers' groups south of the Alaska Range.

Alaska is unique regarding honey bee diseases: For all practical purposes we have none. We want to keep it this way. For this reason it is imperative that a tight and inclusive law be passed by the current Legislature regarding importation of used beekeeping equipment in any form. By "regarding" I mean total prohibition of importation of such equipment.

I've talked with Nick Carney several times regarding this proposed Bill and the attendant means of controlling honey bee diseases if and when they are exposed. The Department of Agriculture seems more than willing to work in full cooperation with Alaska's beekeepers in all aspects of beekeeping regulation. Once apprised of the need for such absolute legal control of disease prevention, and action necessary if disease is discovered in established colonies within Alaska, Nick has been helpful and interested and has promised his continued full support.

We in Fairbanks didn't get word of the telecon of 3/31 until too late to participate. Do understand that our apparent disinterest was not intentional--we are vitally concerned with this issue and want you to know of our concern. There are about 650 colonies run by about 400 beekeepers in Fairbanks area alone, another 200 in Delta. Alaska's total, as near as I can estimate from contacts throughout the state, is probably close to 1300 colonies minimum to 1500 maximum. We currently

4/20/81

have no central data collecting point nor coordinated information exchange. This is another area we're working in to correct.

Beekeeping may seem small and in the "back of the bus" to you and other legislators, Bob, but it's coming along on an individual basis as fast as any other phase of agriculture in Alaska. I realize you can't be expected to know the needs and wants of the people without, in some instances at least, being apprised. I'd estimate persons keeping honey bees have doubled within the past 10 years. In Fairbanks alone the annual package bee shipments from the lower 48 have more than doubled since 1968. Commercial sales of locally produced honey have leaped from nearly nothing 10 years ago to more than 8000 pounds last year, and the potential market is practically limitless.

Beekeepers are a growing part of Alaska's future, both individually and commercially. We have as I've already stated a unique status in being blessed with a disease-free environment. But we need your and other legislators' help to maintain this condition. A comprehensive, practical and livable bill prohibiting the importation of used bee-keeping equipment in whatever form is needed immediately. You have the information necessary to work up such a bill. Please work at it.

Incidentally, used equipment and honey in such equipment is the primary means of spreading honey bee brood disease. Disease spores and protozoans, once established, will remain viable for many years in honey and in the comb (beeswax) of hives and <sup>IN</sup> components, even though they may not have been in active use for years. New equipment, naturally, won't have disease. Honey bees themselves can also transmit certain diseases but here is where we place great reliance on the inspection system of the state shipping the packages of honey bees. Bees shipped in packages only (no used equipment included) from routinely inspected apiaries have a tremendous, smaller probability of harboring infectious disease.

Will you please let me know if the <sup>BILL</sup> (H.B. 318) is being rewritten? Will there be another telecon pertaining to this bill? I'll appreciate you keeping me informed on all aspects concerning our "bee bill."

Sincerely,



Dave Tozier

SERVING INTERIOR ALASKA'S BEEKEEPERS

# Hives & Honey

SALES:  
3 / 4 MILE HURST ROAD  
NORTH POLE, ALASKA

APIARY  
PHONE  
(907) 488-6484

MAIL:  
S. R. BOX 80632  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701

April 20, 1981

Rep. Sally Smith  
Touch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Sally:

I just wrote a longish letter to Bob Bettisworth on H.B. 318; perhaps you can get a copy of that for some fill-in information on honey bees. I don't have a copy machine, the North Pole library is closed today, and my typing is so error-filled you wouldn't be able to read a carbon copy.

We in Fairbanks didn't hear about the telecon held from 1300-1400 on March 31 until too late to participate. During the telecon held that evening with the Fairbanks delegation, I was slated to talk with Bob but we found out he was on the way to Fairbanks. You talked with Harold (Hal) Livingston that evening, though, and I was there too.

The proposed Act as submitted to you and other legislators by Hal is better worded and more comprehensive than the original Bill as introduced by Hugh Malone et al. We do need a plainly worded Bill that will prohibit importation into Alaska used beekeeping equipment in any form or for any purpose. I believe the original Bill is being rewritten (by you and Resources Committee?) before further action. Is this so?

Is it possible for you to let me know of any proposed teleconference pertaining to H.B. 318 in its revised form? Can you let me know of any changes and any action at all concerning this important matter?

If there's any way I can help please let me know.

Sincerely,



Dave Tozier

(Interior Beekeepers Proposal)

For an Act entitled: "AN ACT TO MAINTAIN THE HEALTH OF HONEYBEES IN ALASKA"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

Section 1. The importation into Alaska of used beekeeping woodenware, accompanied by bees or not, shall be prohibited. Used beekeeping woodenware is defined as any wood, straw, plastic, or composition material fabricated into top boards, inner covers, hive boxes, frames, bottom boards, feeders, pollen traps, or other beehive furniture normally used to house honeybees, that has ever been in contact with honeybees.

Section 2. All combless package honeybees imported into Alaska shall be accompanied by a certificate of health, signed by a qualified Apiary Inspector, stating that they came from disease-free apiaries.

Section 3. The Department of Agriculture shall have the authority to take appropriate action in dealing with any reported or discovered cases of honeybee brood diseases to prevent their spread within Alaska. Appropriate action shall consist of supervising one of the following:

- a. Disinfection of equipment by fumigation with ethylene oxide.
- b. Disinfection of equipment by boiling lye-water bath.
- c. Burning bees and equipment to ashes and burying the ashes at least 18 inches deep in the ground.

Anchorage, Alaska  
Mar 23, 1981

Rep. Ramon Barnes  
Pouch V. Janenu, Ak.

Dear Ramona

I do appreciate your replying to the letter I sent to the legislators regarding Bee Disease and Honey regulations.

I didn't get many replies but I wasn't really asking for any. I wanted to inform the Legislators on the subject. It is something new and different and you people wouldn't have much of a source to draw on.

The Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assoc. had a bill prepared that Arlis Sturgulewski was going to introduce in the Senate. That hasn't been done yet which is all right because the Interior Bee Keepers came up with a proposal which is more complete than ours.

When we started we had no idea what response we would have from the beekeepers across the State so we started easy. We didn't want the thing to go down the tube.

You will have or will have received the Interior Beekeepers Proposal soon.

Hal Livingston (their spokesman) said that he was going to contact some legislator and have it introduced. I don't know if this is in the program now or not. I haven't been in contact with him within the last several days.

I don't know why any knowledgeable person, beekeeper or otherwise would have any objection to their proposal. It covers the subject well and more complete than House Bill 318.

I don't feel much improvement could be made on the Interior Proposal. It covers the subject well and gives methods dealing with the disease in tried and true ways by beekeepers who are experienced in these matters.

We have a chance of doing things right in regard to dealing with bee disease. As far as we know there is no disease in the State now but if and when it gets here we need knowledgeable people to identify and control it.

Bee disease is a problem to the beekeepers and no one else. The beekeepers want legislation to prevent and control disease in this State if and when it should show up.

The disease is spread almost entirely through the use of used equipment.

The Interior Beekeepers have come up with a proposal to prevent and control the disease which we of the Cook Inlet Beekeepers Asso. totally endorse.

House Bill 318 prohibits used bee equipment.

Sec. 1. of the interior proposal spells out what beekeeping equipment is so it leaves no doubt to the beekeepers or enforcing agency. We are requesting that this will be included in the current bill for us. It won't hurt anyone but will prevent problems in the future.

Ramona Barnes (2) Mar. 23, 1981

Sec. 2 of the Interior Proposal spells out the method of dealing with any disease that is found.

The three things listed are time proven and we feel it should be included in the bill and not left up to some agency who has no experience or knowlege to write the regulations.

These are from knowledgeable beekeepers who will be effected by the Statute.

There will always be judgment matters in this as a police officer does in deciding what particular direction should be taken in a given situation but feel the main thing should be spelled out.

It bothers us that the writing will be left up to an agency that may or may not have the expertice and understanding of the problem, writing something which the beekeepers would have to live with which may not be the best for them or the problem.

Again I say this expertice is in the Alaska Beekeeping Industry. That has been shown in the Interior proposal. There is no need for some outside group spending a lot of money to write regulations that they know nothing about.

The conditions in Alaska are UNIQUE. Everything they do outside doesn't necessarily mean that it is good for Alaska.

If The Proposal of the Interior Beekeepers is adopted it will be complete and everyone will know whats going on and it can be implimented immediately.

I trust you will work toward this end for us and inform your colleged of our needs.

If you have any further questions please contact us.

Thanking you

*Fletcher F. Miller*

Fletcher F. Miller (sec.)  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Assoc.  
Box 8-173 Anch., Ak. 99504

cc

High Malone  
Randy Phillips  
Brian Rogers

Mar 8, 1981

Hal Livingston  
1812 Central Ave  
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701

Dear Hal

The proposed Legislation that the Interior beekeepers have come up with deals with the entire picture more completely than what we have.

Due to the nature of the case in that beekeeping is a relative new thing across the State there has been no real contact or a general basis with the other beekeepers.

When we started the ball rolling down this way last fall we felt the urgency to get something on the books. We had no reading as to how the other beekeepers of the State would react to the legislation and what the Agriculture Dept. position would be.

I feel definitely that it should be spelled out exactly how diseased bees should be dealt with as you people did.

Section 3-A is the best way of dealing with diseased equipment but due to the cost of the equip. and other things it is a ways down the road but feel this should be included in the legislation and would be something to work toward.

Section 3-C has for more years than I can remember been the best and most effective way of controlling the spread of disease.

Section 3-B has also been used over the years. I have personally run many pieces of equipment through this process.

My only concern with this portion is not what it says but what it doesn't say.

Is the cutting out of the combs from the frames and rendering of the wax going to be allowed? The handling of diseased material is a serious matter. The woods are full of beginner hobbyist beekeepers who until a few months ago didn't know that there was anything such as a bee disease.

There is more than one commercial beekeeper in this end of the world who have had no real experience with bee disease and handling of diseased equipment.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from James C. Bach, Chief Apiary Insp. from the State of Washington in reply to my question to him in regard to the matter of individual rendering of diseased combs.

Hal Livingston (2) 3-8-81

QUOTE "Rendering by the individual causes me some apprehensions. Most Apiarists do not recognize the need for sanitation and cleanliness around a disease situation. In Washington they have been allowed to render their own disease. When I came in we adhered to the letter of the law. We found anything from a poor job of rendering with comb still hanging from the wires to no rendering because of supposed breakdown of the equipment. Also some of the equipment to be rendered mysteriously turned up in the warehouse. What I am saying is that the inspector loses control of the situation."

I have coordinated the proposed bee legislation and personally feel there would be strong backing for your proposal.

The other thing that isn't covered is who would do the inspecting?

The Agriculture Dept. wants it mandatory that an entomologist be tied with a disease bill. He would take care of the inspection work and divide his time with other work that they would have for him to do.

What is your position on this?

As I have stated before the entomologist would have to be an Apiaculturist also in order to be a help and not a hinderance to the beekeeping industry.

The other thing is that the Agriculture Dept. would want to write the regulations dealing with disease, which they have no business doing since they don't know anything about it.

The interior beekeepers proposal proves that the beekeeping industry has what it takes to write something that will take care of the problem without any one else getting in to muddy up the water.

The beekeepers can come up with what is best for the beekeeping industry better than anyone else.

Will be waiting for you to get in contact with us again soon on this matter

Fletcher F. Miller (sec.)

*Fletcher F. Miller*  
Cook Inlet Beekeepers Asso.  
Box 8-173 Anch., Ak. 99504