

SB

70

COMMON SENSE FOR ALASKA  
P.O. BOX 202087  
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SB 70  
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April 10, 1986

Alaska State Legislature  
Senator Mitchell Abood  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Abood;

The Board of Directors of Common Sense for Alaska (CSA) is taking this opportunity to express strong opposition to S.B. 70, which would allow the Commissioner of Revenue to provide confidential taxpayer information to the Legislature and its staff. CSA supports the current confidentiality regulation by which the Department of Revenue is prohibited from disclosing taxpayer information.

S.B. 70 as proposed, permits any legislative committee to request taxpayer returns for review in closed executive sessions, in the presence of legislative aides and other State employees. This proposed Bill raises several concerns among our members regarding access to and control of confidential taxpayer information. Specifically, we are concerned with what policies will govern legislative aides and State employees involving this confidential taxpayer information. In addition we are concerned whether laws will be established to provide incentives and/or disincentives to legislative employees and immune legislators to prevent inadvertant disclosure of confidential and potentially damaging proprietary information. We believe the serious risks associated with this Bill not only discourage business and industry in Alaska, but violate the separation of powers concept inherent in a democratic society .

Sincerely,

*Rich*

Richard G. Carson  
Chairman  
Department of Revenue  
Study Task Force

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