

**SB**

**198**

# Alaska State Legislature

## District Address

145 Main St. Loop; Suite 226  
Kenai, Alaska 99611  
(907) 283-2690 • Fax 283-9267



## Session Address

State Capitol; Room 427  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
(907) 465-2828: fax 465-4779

Senator John Torgerson

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### CSSB 198 (FIN) - HOMER AIRPORT CRITICAL HABITAT AREA

The Department of Transportation currently has an interest in 1,042.31 acres of uplands and tide and submerged lands for the Homer Airport. SB 198 would transfer some 295 acres to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, to be managed as a critical habitat area. Approximately 747 acres of land will continue to be dedicated for airport purposes after the creation of the Critical Habitat Area.

The primary purpose of the CHA is to protect the existing area for wintering and calving moose and nesting waterfowl and shorebirds. However, the legislation specifically restricts enhancement activity for waterfowl and shorebirds. No effort will be allowed to increase existing populations through creation of additional nesting sites, feeding programs, or other enhancement activities. Enhancement for browse area for moose is not restricted, and the areas set aside for the CHA are outside the fenced runway.

Future expansion plans have been reviewed by the Department and the local jurisdiction, the City of Homer. The Department initially recommended an area of about 75 acres in size as future expansion. Concerns were expressed by some local residents about that removal and the issue was brought before the City of Homer. The City Council supported the full 300 acre area, without any removal for future expansion. Given the local government support, the Department then provided the legal description for the full 300 acres.

This legislation provides for an Advisory Committee to work with the department and advise on the management of the Area, including a representative of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

This legislation required substantial interaction with the Department of Transportation, to ensure that their interests in a public improvement were adequately protected. All drafts of the bill has been reviewed by the Department and subsequently corrected as recommended by the Department.

(JT: maj: SB 198: 3/29/96)

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## SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

### CSSB 198 (RES) - Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area

**Section 1: Purpose.** States that the purpose of the legislation is for moose habitat and for guaranteed continued public access.

**Section 2.** New section AS 16.20.630, adding Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area;

subsection (a) setting forth legal description for included properties, Tract A through and including Tract E;

subsection (b) specific restrictions applicable to Tracts A and B;

subsection (c) specific restrictions applicable to Tracts C, D, E,

subsection (d) language requiring ADF&G cooperation with ADOT in implementing restrictions in subsection (b) & (c);

subsection (e) language prohibiting bird habitat enhancement, development, and creation within the C.H.A.;

subsection (f) protective covenant and easement language for land transfers which may be needed to implement the C.H.A.;

subsection (g) establishes an advisory committee for management of the C.H.A. and requires the management plan to include guaranteed continued public access.

(JT:maj:CSSB198(RES):3/29/96)

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## Support Summary

### SB 198 - Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area

1. **Letters of Support:** Support letters have been received from numerous individuals, from petitions circulated on the area, and the following groups.

Homer Charter Association  
North Pacific Fisheries Association  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Kachemak Bay Conservation Society  
South Peninsula Sportsmen's Association  
Kachemak Bay State Park Citizen's Advisory Board  
Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
National Wildlife Federation  
Cook Inlet Seiners Association  
Homer Society of Natural History  
Paul Banks Elementary School

2. **Public Meetings:** The City of Homer has had the issue before them at both City Council meetings and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings seven times in the past year. At each meeting, the overwhelming public comment has been in support of the concept. Senator Torgerson held a meeting in Homer in October of 1995 and again the predominant public comments were in favor of the concept.

3. **Local Government Support:** Both the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and the Homer City Council have passed resolutions supporting the Critical Habitat Area Concept.

(JT: maj; SB 198: 2/14/96)

CITY OF HOMER  
INITIATIVE PETITION

SUMMARY OF THE RESOLUTION TO BE INITIATED

Shall the people of the City of Homer express opposition to the creation of the "Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area" and ask the Alaska Legislature to withdraw or defeat Senate Bill 198.

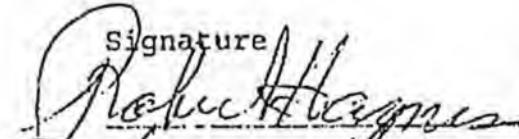
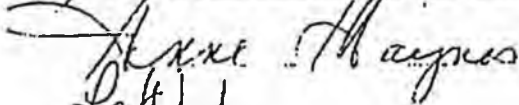
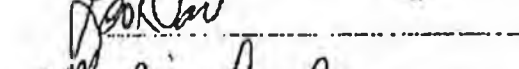
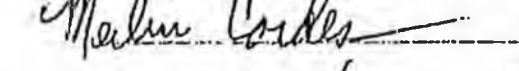
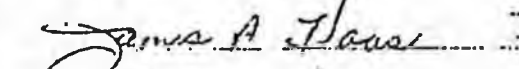


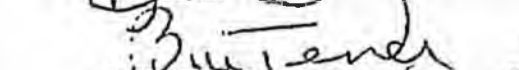
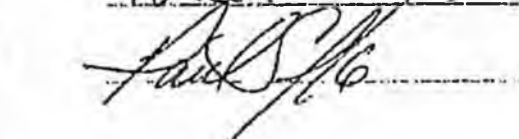
Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Roy E Hoyt Jr.</i>	ROY E HOYT JR.	4802 ROCHELLE RD	P. O. BOX 2121	4/2/96
<i>Juan B Hoyt</i>	JUAN B. HOYT	4802 ROCHELLE RD	P.O. Box 2121	4-3-96
<i>J. Murdoch</i>	Joseph W. Murdoch	365 W. Pioneer Ave	SAME	4-3-96
<i>David Gilbert</i>	David Gilbert	4814 Rochelle Rd	same	4-5-96
<i>R. L. Prou</i>	ROBERT L. PROU	4662 SABRINA RD	SAME	4-5-96
<i>Toni M. Bullard</i>	Toni M. Bullard	330 Klondike	P.O. Box 2522	4-5-96
<i>Kim Gilbert</i>	Kim Gilbert	4814 Rochelle Rd	same	4-5-96
<i>Lisa Wise</i>	Lisa Wise	3977 Henderson	Box 1332	4/7/96 5-7-96
<i>Frank Kane</i>	FRANK KANE	3950 SVERLAND	Homer	4/19/96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
	Robert Haynes	5010 EAST HILL	Box 665	4-6-96
	Anne Haynes	5010 EAST HILL Rd	Box 665	4-6-96
	Leo K. Vait	4290 Kramer Ln.	Box 1532 Homer	4-5-96
	Merlin Cordes	137 W. Bunnell Ave	SAME Homer	4-5-96
	JAMES A. HAAS	1862 TRITON CRT	177 E. BUNNELL AVE, HOMER	4/5/96
	TANIA DICKEY	590 Waddell	POB 686 Homer	4/5/96
	BRAD DICKEY	1137 SEARREE	POB 2677 HOMER	4-5-96
	Bill Tenner	3179 LAKE ST	HOMER	4-6-96
	PAUL SIPLE	3848 KINGMAN	PO Box 3212	4-6-96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Evelyn F Sprague</i>	EVELYN F SPRAGUE	193 E DANVIEW, HOMER	PO BOX 1453	3 APR 96
<i>Alex W. Flynn</i>	ALEX W. FLYNN	267 City View St	P.O. Box 585	4 April 96
<i>Bonnie L. Nelson</i>	BONNIE L. NELSON	4450 MARLINER	P.O. Box 224	4-4-96
<i>Anna Seay</i>	Anna Seay	4001 Mattier Rd	P.O. Box 202	4-4-96
<i>Karen Flynn</i>	KAREN FLYNN	267 City View	P.O. Box 585	4-4-96
<i>Charlene Flynn</i>	Charlene Flynn	267 Cityview	PO Box 585	4-4-96
<i>Michael Scoures</i>	michael SCOURSES	862 Oceanview comp	P.O. Box 225	4/4/96
<i>Larry J. Martin</i>	Larry J Martin	364 Range View		4-4-96
<i>Stewart Brown</i>	Stewart Brown	KAY ST Diamond Ridge Homer	PO Box 1404	4/4/96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	John R. McFly	4500 Lundy	1/1/98	4/4/96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	R. Mike Harmer	4252 Gavin Ct.	Same	4/4/96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Jeff Hout	1375 Main St. #1	P.O. Box 208 Anker Pt.	4-4-96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Gwen Harmer	4252 Gavin Ct.	Same	4-4-96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	HARRY E GREGOIRE	3897 Kachemak	P.O. 241 Homer AK	4-4-96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Janet Bishop	7712 Bishop	P.O. 1455 HOMER AK	" "
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	ALBERT E SORENSEN	128 HANSEN AVG		HOMER AK 4-4-96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	WANDA BILLUPS	475 SOUNDVIEW		HOMER AK 4-4-96
<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Lloyd S. Trutz	2577 Kachemak Pt		HOMER AK 4-4-96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Larry G. Albertson</i>	LARRY G. ALBERTSON	1563 #4 SPIT RD	1663 #7 SPIT RD - HOMER	4-3-96
<i>John Ashment</i>	John Ashment	3815 Homer Sp. Rd A	Homer AK	4-3-96
<i>Larry Herndon</i>	LARRY HERNDON	41745 Bear Creek Dr.	Homer AK	4/3/96
<i>John Charles Jr</i>	JOHN CHARLES JR	2064 Homer Spit Rd	HOMER AK	4/3/96
<i>Elizabeth Chapple</i>	ELIZABETH CHAPPLE	2604 Homer Spit Rd	2604 Homer Spit Rd	4/3/96
<i>Linda E. Cortez</i>	LINDA E. CORTAZ	104 DAWNVIEW	P.O. BOX 338	4/3/96
<i>Stacy R. Luck</i>	Stacy R. Luck	971 Ocean Drive loop #15		4/3/96
<i>Catherine Squires</i>	Catherine Squires	4586 Early Spring	Homer, AK	4/3/96
<i>Arthur B. Myers</i>	ARTHUR B. MYERS	4586 EARLY SPRING	P.O. Box 254 HOMER AK.	4/3/96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	Rick Swenson	4310 Homer Spit Road Mile 5 E Rd	4737 Ravine	3 April 1996
<i>[Signature]</i>	D. L. Stockwell	PO Box 552	Homer AK	4/3/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	E. Dierich	1101 Nelson Ave	Box 1247	4/3/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Velma Ellison	1/2 Lane Ellison	473 Rainier Ave Homer 99603	4/3/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Joseph A. Meeker	1472 Bay Ave	1472 Bay Ave	4/3/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Helen S. Meeker	1475 Bay Ave	1475 Bay Ave	4/3/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	GEORGE W. MEEKER	1475 BAY AVE	1475 BAY AVE	4-3-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Johnny Anderson	130 Danview ST	130 Danview	4-3-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Brenda Albertson	1563 #1A Spited	1663 #7 Spit Rd Homer	4-3-96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Titus J. Hermann</i>	Titus J. Hermann	732 Dunrover Ave. E.	Same	4/2/96
<i>John C. Chapple III</i>	John C. Chapple III	257 Dunrover Ave.	P.O. Box 1447 Homer	4-2-96
<i>Margaret L. Chapple</i>	Margaret L. Chapple	257 Dunrover Ave	P.O. Box 1447 Homer	4-2-96
<i>Grant W. Willes</i>	Grant Willes	265 E. Pioneer Ave.	P.O. Box 1447 Homer	4-3-96
<i>James H. Bolt</i>	JAMES H. BOLT	4704 SARRINA	Homer AK 99603	4/3/96
<i>John R. King</i>	John R. King	2171 ASPIN LN Middletown CT 10m	Homer AK 99603	4/3/96
<i>Eric Sheppard</i>	ERIC SHEPPARD	1505 1	FRITZ CR. AK	4-3-96
<i>Darcy Geesfach</i>	DARCY GEESFACH	4737 ROCHELLE	Same	4/3/96
<i>Julia Schroeder</i>	Julia Schroeder	" "	"	4-3-96

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<i>Leland Gannaway</i>	Leland GANNAWAY	EAST Hill	HOMER P.O. Box 653	4-2-96
<i>K.C. Seaman</i>	K.C. SEAMAN	4266 Shirley Ct	HOMER	4/2/96
<i>Rex Kaufman</i>	Rex Kaufman	1563 Homer Sp. Rd.	Homer	4/2/96
<i>Luke Welles</i>	LUKE WELLES	166 BUNNELL #9	HOMER	4/2/96
<i>DEREK G. KORTH</i>	DEREK G. KORTH	<del>PO</del> E. Hill	PO Box 3983 <sup>Homer</sup>	4/2/96
<i>Alexander Myhill</i>	Alexander Myhill	485 W. Fairview	Homer	4/2/96
<i>Nikki M. Welles</i>	Nikki M. Welles	36.5 E. Pioneer Ave	Homer	4/2/96
<i>Sharolyn Hermann</i>	Sharolyn Hermann	2312 Danvic.w Ave. E.	Homer, AK	4/2/96

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<i>Harold Billups</i>	HAROLD BILLUPS	475 Sundview Homer		4/5/96
<i>John B. Child</i>	JOHN B. CHILD	P.O. BOX 543 HOMER, AK 99603		4/5/96
<i>Karl Rosenberg</i>	KARL ROSENBERG	129 Herndon	AK	4/5/96
<i>Leo Rhode</i>	LEO RHODE	129 Herndon St	HOMER, AK	4/5/96
<i>Fred E. Carroll</i>	FRED E. CARROLL	2691 KACHEMAK DR.	HOMER AK	4/4/96
<i>Edward J. Corey</i>	EDWARD J. COREY	2675 KACHEMAK DR.	HOMER AK	4/4/96
<i>Beulah E. Gregoire</i>	BEULAH E. GREGOIRE	3897 Kachemak Dr.	P.O. Box 14 HOMER, AK	4-4-96
<i>Richard L. Sprague</i>	RICHARD L. SPRAGUE	193 DANVIEW ST.	HOMER AK 90	4/4/96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Glenn Hermann</i>	Glenn Hermann	232 Danvers E.	Homer, AK	4-2-96
<i>LEOTA DAVISON</i>	LEOTA DAVISON	479 E CRAB TAKE	HOMER AK	4-2-96
<i>Charles M. Rockett</i>	Charles M Rockett	1104 Ocean Dr.	Homer, AK	4-2-96
<i>Mike Radford</i>	MIKE RADFORD	1231 OCEAN DR	HOMER AK	4-2-96
<i>Gordon Berg</i>	Gordon Berg	1421 Ocean Dr	Homer AK	4-2-96
<i>Donald Burkhardt</i>	DONALD BURKHART	436 RAKE VIEW	PO BOX 3091 HOMER AK	4-2-96
<i>Earl Breckenridge</i>	EARL BRECKENRIDGE	1762 STERLING HWY	PO BOX 455	4-2-96
<i>Mike Shannon</i>	MIKE SHANNON	2123 Frisbee Ct. #14	HOMER	4/2/96

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<i>[Signature]</i>	Hazel Kirschner	2395 Kachemak Dr.	PO Box 1052	4/6/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Laura K Boyle	3684 MAIN ST	P.O. Box 4062	4/5/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Thomas F. Mayhew	4661 Rochelle Rd	PO Box 2387 Homer	4/6-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Peter A Lee	Box 11915	Homer AK 99103	4-6-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Charles R. Lewis	1444 Bay Ave	PO Box 854 Homer	4-6-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	ANNAM. LEWIS	1444 BAY AVE	PO Box 854 Homer	4-6-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Timothy E Carr	4360 Pillsbury	Box 1899 Homer	4/6/96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Dorine Clendener	231 E. DANVIEW	SAME	4-6-96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Robert E. Keys</i>	Robert E. Keys	3601 Main St #9	Same	4-6-96
<i>Millie McDonald</i>	Millie McDonald	3601 Main St #3	Same	4-6-96
<i>Barbara Meyer</i>	Barbara Meyers	3601 MAIN ST #9	Same	4-6-96
<i>Anthony Nunes</i>	Anthony Nunes	3601 MAIN ST #8	Same	4-6-96
<i>Ralph W. Leandinen</i>	Ralph W. LEANDINEN	231 E DANVILLE AVE	Same	4/6/96
<i>John Cunningham</i>	JOHN CUNNINGHAM	791 OCEAN LOOP		4/6/96
<i>Trace Carlos</i>	Trace Carlos	601 E Pioneer #114	Same	4/8/96
<i>Patricia L. Ewart</i>	Patricia L. Ewart	564 Lee St	601 E Pioneer #114	4/8/96

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April 11, 1996

Jeff  
FODSB 198  
BILL FILE (7)

Representative Gail Phillips  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room #208  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Gail:

Early this week, I faxed 101 of the 163 needed petition signatures asking for the Airport Critical Habitat issue to go to a vote of the people of Homer. I, one-on-one, got 92 of these signatures in four days and while doing so spoke to each and every signer. Only two people I approached were in favor of the Critical Habitat Area and they did not sign the petition. Those I approached, or who came to me to ask to sign it, are middle-class, working people, otherwise known as the "silent majority."

I began this petition drive when the newspaper, City Council, and other environmental factions whom I consider to be rather radical, implied that all of the people were in favor of creating this habitat. I wasn't, and in talking to my acquaintances found they weren't either. Listening to testimony before Council, I found that over half of those testifying were not residents of the City. Why was this railroaded through Council and through the Legislature? Why were letters from the airport manager and pilots opposing this issue for safety reasons ignored? They would not have been ignored by people who lost loved ones in the two fatal crashes since 1987. Who's pushing and what do they have to gain? How many Council people have property joining this parcel?

When election time arrives and this issue is on the ballot, it may not pass. So be it, if this is really what the majority wants. I just want to remind you that many of the solid core of residents who pay the property taxes and either work for a paycheck or are small-business owners do not want it.

Sincerely yours,

*Ralph J. Clendenen*

RALPH J. CLENDENEN  
231 E. Danview  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
235-5197

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Dale Franklin</i>	Dale Franklin	Lot One Block Forest <sup>Three</sup> 61054B	PO BOX 1625	4/11/96
<i>Storm P. Hansen</i>	Storm P. Hansen	P.O. Box 1068 Mission Road, East Hill		4/11/96
<i>Judith Burkhardt</i>	Judith Burkhardt	436 Ringview <del>PO Box 3061</del>	PO Box 3061 Homer	4/11/96
<i>Larry Reinsch</i>	Larry Reinsch	167 Lee St	PO BOX 560	4-11-96
<i>Jeanne S Boily</i>	Jeanne S Boily	527 Grubstake	Same	4-11-96
<i>Marc S Boily</i>	Marc S Boily	527 Grubstake	Same	4-11-96
<i>Marty McElroy</i>	<del>Marty</del> Marty McElroy	4142 Patton St.	Same	4/11/96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	CHARLES ANDERSON	Box 378	HOMER AK	4-8-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	RAY EVARTS	601 PIONEER	HOMER AK	4-8-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Louise Ishmael	Box 173	Homer AK	4-9-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Billyann Strick	Box 145	Anchor Point AK	4-9-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	JOHN H. SEITZ	Box 1199	HOMER AK	99603 4-9-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	NORMAN W CORBELL	Box 2778	HOMER AK	99603 4-9-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Cecilia M. Corbell	Box 2778	Homer AK	99603 4-9-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Aldie Klemko	Box 2157	Homer AK	99603 4-9-96
<i>[Signature]</i>	Robert Klemko	Box 2157	Homer AK	99603 4-10-96

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Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Jay R Tinsley</i>	JAY R TINSLEY	349 E. PIONEER	SAME	APR 11 96
<i>Stacy M. Stout</i>	Freda M Stout	530 Pranza	Same	4/11/96
<i>Ben G Mitchell</i>	BEN G Mitchell	7 mi E Rd 104 E Pioneer	Homer	4/11/96
<i>Keith H. Higley</i>	Keith H. Higley	Belnap Subdivision	P.O. 2251 Homer AK 99603	4/11/96
<i>Kate Mitchell</i>	Kate Mitchell	Truc E Rd	104 E Pioneer	4/11/96
<i>Sanford Beachy</i>	Sanford Beachy	7355 Kachomak	Box 700	4-11-96
<i>Mike Morawitz</i>	Mike Morawitz	4911 Birch Lane	Box 2701	4-11-96
<i>Denny e. Koth</i>	Denny e. Koth	BEAR CREEK 30 PARMIGNIAN	Box 3082	4-11-96
<i>Ruth Longhenry</i>	Ruth Longhenry	39845 Fernwood Drive	Homer	4-11-96

April 1, 1996 page \_\_\_

Copy

CITY OF HOMER  
INITIATIVE PETITION

SUMMARY OF THE RESOLUTION TO BE INITIATED

Shall the people of the City of Homer express opposition to the creation of the "Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area" and ask the Alaska Legislature to withdraw or defeat Senate Bill 198.

Signature	Printed Name	Residence Address	Mailing Address	Date
<i>Marsha Korpi</i>	MARSHA KORPI	488 Spruceview	BOX 1033, HOMER	4-6-96
<i>T.H. Keffer</i>	T.H. Keffer	488 Spruceview	P.O. Box 1033	Homer, AK 4-6-96
<i>Darlene Emery</i>	Darlene Emery	151 Danview	P.O. 1491	Homer, AK 99603 4-8-96
<i>Christina Collinsworth</i>	Christina Collinsworth	350 Bonanza	P.O. Box 848, Homer	AK 99603 4-8-96
<i>Edith H. Frazier</i>	Edith H. Frazier	349 Bonanza	P.O. Box 2226	Homer AK 99603 4-8-96
<i>Laura Dawson</i>	Laura Dawson	2 Beechside Park #2	P.O. Box 2226	Homer 4-8-96
<i>Patricia L. Shearer</i>	Patricia Shearer	3941 Jennifer Plac.	P.O. Box 800	Homer, 99603
<i>Jessie V. Tanaga</i>	JENNIE V. TANAGA	4690 Sabaria Rd		99603
<i>Marden M. Hunt</i>	Marden	177 Hunt	P.O. Box 2730	Homer AK



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources  
committee name  
committee on SB 198 . dated April 24, 1996.  
bill/subject

Testimony from Stan Welles - 3 pages  
Testimony from Ralph Clendenen - 2 pages

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (Optional)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.

## ALASKA AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING

PO Box 1447

Homer, Alaska 99603-1447

phone (907) 235-2200; fax (907) 235-7517

Stan Welles

In opposition to the creation of the "Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area".

I'm used to working with cattle, tourists and aviation. Each are important. Each are needed. Each have a place. But not the same place. And definitely not at the same time.

Holstein bulls and moose have about the same temperament, gentle except when they don't want to be. From a safety and liability point-of-view, we have enough moose per capita now. Conscientiously enhancing the in-town moose brings implicit liability in the case of personal injury or death.

My further opposition sits on three legs:-

- a. Wildlife Management
- b. Economic Development
- c. Aviation Safety

**Wildlife management:-** The browse in the proposed area is only marginally adequate to support the moose feeding there now.

I understand that a limited hunt is even planned to control the growth of the herd. What is the point of enhancement?

Tourist viewing? Not often during the summer. It's too warm, marginal on food supply and too many people. They head for the hills and the black timber where it's cooler, fewer people and more food. We send our Bed and Breakfast tourists up the North Fork Road.

**Economic development:-** I own all or a significant part of three businesses; The Wandering Star Bed & Breakfast, Pioneer Building Pizzeria (Homer's largest pizza restaurant) and Alaska Aircraft Engineering. Though tourism is an appreciated part of our Homer economy, I submit that it is private business that pays the bills.

We have considerable sentiment toward a no growth policy.

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For those that must work for their bread and butter, such sentiment represents either irrational or the absence of thought.

For those that have already earned their bread and butter (retired), they want goods and services; a no-growth sentiment is irrational.

For those that are supported by tax payers, is it fair that they should have a voice?

It is important to recognize that businesses that build a product, provide a service or sell either one form the economic foundation of any economy.

If people are attracted to a community, it will grow in either an organized or a haphazard way.

In all the communities I've seen, sensible planning benefited all. The Homer basin has very little area for small business.

Second, the Anchorage paper recently commented about the economic benefit derived by the Anchorage Airport. So it is with Homer. The area proposed for this senseless habitat is critical. It is critical to the marriage of our airport and business growth.

## Aviation Safety:-

I've done substantial engineering on the Northrop/Boeing B-2 Flying Wing Bomber, the Boeing 777 and the yet unreleased new Boeing 737 series of aircraft.

I've worked for the Federal Aviation Administration and currently am doing accident investigation of three inflight aircraft breakups in this country and two in Australia.

Bureaucracies typically make very short sighted decisions based on what is politically expedient today rather than based upon principle for tomorrow.

Wildlife enhancement at the Homer airport today jeopardizes our aviation safety tomorrow. We put a great

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deal of effort into design and testing of aircraft and engines for bird strike. But as recent history has shown, we still loose lives to bird strike.

Once you have a bird problem, it's very expensive and messy to eliminate or reduce it. Look at Elmendorf and Lake Hood just for starters.

How is it possible to get past the emotional nonsense of issues like this and emphasize the importance of not putting tourists (passengers), airplanes and birds in the same place at the same time?

SINCERELY,

Stanley W. Welles

House Resources  
Re: SB 198

There are many reasons why the State should not create a wildlife critical habitat in the middle of an incorporated, first-class city such as Homer and very especially not on 300 acres that run adjacent to and full length of Homer's commercial airport.

For lack of time, I'll deal with the tip of the iceberg.

I have spoken to the FAA, Federal Airports Division and the National Transportation Safety Board. They told me that even though such a plan could likely cause danger to aircraft, generally, they deal with situations after crashes and loss of life. In effect saying, "Sadly, we can only take action after picking up pieces and bodies." This was demonstrated graphically at Elmendorf recently.

Even if Homer had no commercial airport, there are still no valid reasons for a critical habitat in the middle of a 4000 plus population of a growing city. Moose and bear are already becoming more and more a hazard within the city. Drivers as well as pedestrians are endangered when moose dart across streets. Cars and drivers, hopefully, sustain only some damage. Pedestrians are more vulnerable and could be killed by a driver that has swerved to miss a moose or a car out of control after hitting a moose.

As more moose and bear range from the habitat area in search of feed through Homer yards, the odds increase that an enraged moose or wandering bear will encounter a small child or elderly person with frailties. The possible result of this was flashed over the TV networks where we painfully witnessed a man being stomped to death at the door of the University in Anchorage.

Finally, as our welfare system creates generations of welfare recipients, so will a wildlife habitat area in Homer continue to create generations of moose that will become more and more dependent on government feeding programs (This is not conjecture but fact. Look at our National park feeding programs that still can't keep great numbers of animals from starvation.) Homer can't afford feeding programs and I don't believe the State has the resources to take on that responsibility either, nor should it.

If there is any doubt of how people of Homer feel about this project being pushed upon them with very little representation, listen to them at the polls this fall as they have requested by petition.

*Thank you*

*Ralph J. CLENDENEN*

*Ralph J. Clendenen*

*231 E DANVILLE AVE  
HOMER, ALASKA 99603*