

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997-1998 86/2

9280 HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
 COMMITTEE NAME
 COMMITTEE ON HB68 DATED Jan. 27, 1997
 BILL/SUBJECT

All things sound good, and everything would work in a perfect world. But no one needs rules in a perfect world. You, as representatives, are charged with keeping the playing field level.

Quality of life is of the highest importance. This is a possible floodgate. Keep it closed. Keep overtime as it stands.

SIGNED Jim Craig
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 178, Healy, AK 99743
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(66)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
 COMMITTEE NAME
 COMMITTEE ON HB-68 DATED 1/27/97
 BILL/SUBJECT

1.5 million - small price to pay for a gold company that expects to make, ~~literally~~, millions & millions of dollars of this gold mine. Again, everything seems to be in the best interest of Fbks Gold Company. Fairbanks Gold is no more interested in the working man ^{women} than they were hiring local people to build the mine (a verbal commitment from the mine to the people of Alaska).

SIGNED Zuan Becker Jr - ZLB over →
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 10955, Fairbanks, AK 99710
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(68)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT

IT WOULD SEEM THAT IF THE FT. KNOX
WORKERS ARE SO ANXIOUS TO GIVE
UP ANY OVERTIME RATE OF PAY
FOR ANYTHING WORKED PAST EIGHT HOURS
A DAY, IT WOULD SEEM THAT THEY
WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE A VOLUNTARY
CUT IN WAGES TO ACCOMADATE THE FT. KNOX
MANAGERS IN SCHEDULING 12 HOUR SHIFTS RATHER
THAN GOING TO THE EXTENT TO CHANGE STATE
LAW JUST TO ACCOMADATE A HANDFUL OF WORKERS.

SIGNED Thomas E. Minder Thomas E. Minder
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 10072 Fairbanks, AK 99710 457-8055
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(69)

Passing HB-68 would only put the working man & women back into the ice age. Twelve hour shifts on straight time is pathetic and an insult to the people of Alaska. From figures & information received from Fbks. Gold in the past how are we expected to take this for granted. Fairbanks Gold is not here for the worker, they are only here for themselves. As far as promoting mining goes, turning down HB-68 will not discourage ~~company's~~ companies from investing in Alaska.

Thank You
F.L. Wye.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Conservation Lobby
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 1-27-76
BILL/SUBJECT

I Terry J. Bezzo feel that if this bill is passed it will impact my income in a way that can harm my whole family. And also can harm the rest of the residents in the state of Alaska.

We have been paid over time for over 8 hours a day every year I have been here in the state - Alaska.

SIGNED T. J. Bezzo
TESTIFIER

7406 302
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

4500d Richardson Hwy, Fairbanks Alaska 99701
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____

COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1- -97
BILL/SUBJECT

PLEASE PASS HB 68 - SO THAT I MAY WORK
A REASONABLE SHIFT, SPEND MORE TIME
WITH MY FAMILY, MORE TIME FISHING
& HUNTING & SPEND LESS TIME & MONEY
COMMITTEE TO WORK
10 & 12 HR. SHIFTS CAN & HAVE BEEN!
WORKED SAFELY. ALLOW ME TO
HELP SET MY OWN SCHEDULE!

SIGNED

TESTIFIER

Kevin Brown

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Labor + Commerce

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE *Wage + Hour*
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON *AB 68* DATED *1-27-97*
BILL/SUBJECT

*I can't believe you'd even consider working
anyone 12 hrs. with no overtime, not even under
emergency conditions.*

SIGNED *Alvin J. Decker*
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 10525 (1673 Gold Pkwy) Fbks. AK. 99715
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(5)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & Com.
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON LABOR 68 DATED 11/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT

H.B. 68 is micro management of industry. Scheduling problems w/in the Ft Knox mine is their problem. Eroding workers rights state-wide is not the answer. Many mines operate under the law and thine Ft. Knox needs to look at their Management for answers not the state Legislature.

Thank You,

SIGNED Richard J. Gaul
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
849 BOHNET DR. FBX, AK 99712
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce + Labor
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED Jan 21 97
 BILL/SUBJECT

as a blue collar worker in Alaska for the last 16 years. I am adamantly opposed to this legislation. I feel threatened by it. In a job area that has no real job security this legislation would directly effect my earning potential. This legislation doesn't really provide anything for the employees. I feel that it is just another cost saving measure. payed for by the employees themselves

SIGNED David Branch
 TESTIFIER
Self
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
880 model for North Pole 488-5631
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & COMMERCE
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-1997
BILL/SUBJECT

I DANIEL M CLASPILL WORK AT USIBELLI
COAL CO. I AM HERE SAY THAT ALL THE
MEN AND WOMEN AT USIBELLI OPPOSE THE
PASSAGE OF THIS BILL (HB 68). I HAVE
BEEN AT THE MINE FOR 13 YEARS AND OVERTIME
IS ALWAYS AN ISSUE. WE CONSISTANTLY VOTED
DOWN ANY PREPOSAL TO GIVE UP OVERTIME
FOR TIME OFF.

SIGNED Daniel M. Claspill
TESTIFIER

NON COMPANY PEOPLE AT USIBELLI COAL CO.
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO. BOX 397 HEALY ALASKA 99743 683-2458
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR/COMMERCE
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HR 68 DATED 27 JAN 97
BILL/SUBJECT

HR 68 IS BASICALLY AN ATTEMPT
TO REDUCE ^{FURTHER} WAGES THAT (PARTICULARLY
IN THE CASE OF PORTLAND) ARE ALREADY RATHER
SUBSTANDARD, IT'S ALSO ABOUT A CANADIAN
COMPANY TRYING TO GET AWAY WITH SOMETHING
THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE JAILED FOR IN
CANADA.

SIGNED FORWARD B McNeal
TESTIFIER

TEAMSTERS 959
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

326 3 RBP ROAD NORTH MOLE
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(10)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labour & Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON # 6B / Flexible Workweek DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

As a employee of a current Surface mine. I am a Full time employee and have been for 20 years. I oppose the changes in the current overtime laws. Most people do not understand but the overtime hours are our hardest hours of work. Usually equipment is broken, frozen or just Picky about running. With this being the case it is our hardest and most frustrating hours of the day. A person should be compensated by the rate of 1 1/2 times the current rate after 8 hours.

Also I am concerned about how voluntary this will be for future employees. I am concerned about my ability to make a decent wage to raise a family etc.

I am Opposed to this Bill making it any further. kill it

SIGNED

TESTIFIER

Self

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 341 Healy Alaska 99743 (907) 633-2550
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

L Scott Killian



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce & Labor
 COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 1-27-97
 BILL/SUBJECT Oppose HB 68 because it

I, Bill R. Williams, have lived & worked in Alaska for the past 30 years. My children were reared here. I have worked construction for many years. Construction jobs are generally short lived not "permanant". I believe this House bill 68 if passed will give all employers in Alaska a foot in the door to take away overtime in which we need to make it. Passing a bill to satisfy the employer of less than 750 people, which will greatly affect 60 to 80 thousand other workers is not right nor is it good for the State of Alaska. These companies want to take the riches out of Alaska at low cost, and put this on the back of the working man.

SIGNED Bill R. Williams
 TESTIFIER

Individual
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 83279 FBKS., AK. 99708

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER 158-7248
Res. 305 6th ave FBKS., AK. 99707



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE

Consolidated Labor
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON

HB 68
BILL/SUBJECT

DATED

1-27-97

i Steve Morgan feel if this Bill is passed, it will affect my income. i feel if certain individuals want to work 10 or 12 hrs at straight time, than let them But do not MAKE it A LAW

SIGNED

Steve Morgan

TESTIFIER

TEAMSTERS # 959

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

440 old Rich #218

907-452-8905

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

FANBANKS, AK, 99701



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commence and Labor
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
 BILL SUBJECT

I am not for HB 68 in that it may jeopardize
 over time a star 8 hours at place of work
 at Usibull: Coal Mines. The Fort Knox
 mine employees may join a Union and
 design a work sch~~a~~ to meet their needs.

There are other open pit mines in the
 state of Alaska which do not want a
 12 hr. work day at stright Time.

I feel other industries could and would
 abuse this 12 hour work days

There is also Bills pending at Washington
 D.C. that also could ~~over~~ make this
 bill not fair and hard to manage.

Dupt. of Labor does not have a large staff
 to ~~police~~ police the certificate of approval.

SIGNED George R. Hopkins
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO Box 171, Healy, Alaska 99743
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

683-1306



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LARSON COMMITTEE
 COMMITTEE ON HR 58 DATED 1-27-97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

I am against this Bill because to me
 it is dictatorship. Let the Unions have a vote
 by this way you will get an answer & that
 should solve all problems.

SIGNED Lance A. Hardy
 TESTIFIER
LARSON
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. BOX 72786 Fair AK 99767
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(12)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & COMMERCE
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

THIS IS BAD LABOR LAW.
 WHAT MAY BE OK FOR FORT KNOX WOULD BE
 BAD STATE WIDE. THE JOBS I TAKE ARE
 UNDERSTOOD TO BE 7 DAY/WK. JOBS; THIS LAW
 WOULD BE A PAY CUT AT THE BEGINNING ~~OF~~ AND
 END OF EACH JOB & ON ALL SHORT CALLS.

I HAVE BEEN WORKING IN ALASKA
 22 YRS. DON'T GIVE ME A PAYCUT TO
 COSY UP TO AN ALASKA HIRE UNFRIENDLY
 COMPANY.

SIGNED Eric Carvalho
 TESTIFIER ERIC CARVALHO

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
PO 83417 FBKS AK, 99708
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor & Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB-68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I am opposed to this bill and any amendments Rep. Sherrault would in the future propose. by allowing one group of employees to coerce legislation that could affect the state as a whole at some time in the future is not in the best interest of our state.

SIGNED Terese Hall
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO Box 373 Healy AK 99743
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

683-2796



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Loiselle Committee
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 27 Jan 1997
BILL/SUBJECT

I am an employee of Ford Knox - This Bill would affect me & my family directly - I am in favor of this Bill and ask your support in getting it passed.

With the Chemical Process we use - the plant must run 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year. You cannot just turn a switch to stop these chemical reactions. But my life must go on also. I missed 4 of my children growing up ~~working rotating shifts~~ rotating shifts. I have worked 8 hrs & 12 hrs rotating and by ~~for~~ 12 hrs give me more "quality" time with my family. I've been there - I know! Please give me your support! Thank you

SIGNED [Signature] Employee # 210
TESTIFIER
→ "Myself" →
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
724 Louise Road Apt C 99712
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR Com.
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

*I oppose this bill, because
it would set the working
class people back to the
dark ages,*

SIGNED *Jimmy P. Brown*
TESTIFIER
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labot Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I'm apposed to this Bill because if you let companies come into Alaska saying the work there going to create will benifit Alaskans. Out where there here they try to twist or bend the laws to most benifit their pocket books. Just like the oil companies up in the North slope. We had the slope as far as Alaska worker because they bring in people from down south that will work for peanuts and that's not right to Alaska or for Alaskans I don't think we should ben over for the Oil Comp. or Fort Knox. I think if we let Fort Knox's bend our laws like the Oil Co's. Have were going to be in sinking ship with just a cup to bail the water out. And pretty soon Alaska will go down.

SIGNED _____
TESTIFIER

T. B. F. W. Local 1547

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

2685 SHADY LAKE R.P. AK 99705
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce & Labor
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

Concerning HB 68, I am adamantly opposed to this bill as it is an insult to all working people.

To enact this bill will be the ruination of safety & working conditions that this nation has fought for since the start of the 'Industrial revolution'

Maybe the proponents of this bill are not worth any overtime pay, but I seriously doubt that any of these so-called supportive employees realizes what the real objectives of their bosses are!

Employees please realize the elimination of this overtime pay, is only the beginning of your own demise.

I hope you wake up before it's too late!

SIGNED Clyde D. Lorenz
 TESTIFIER

Laborer's 942
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. 73114 Fairbanks, AK 99707 457-7106
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(16)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor & Commerce
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL SUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

this Bill is an unfair labor practice
 it would mean a work week
 could begin on a Thursday or any
 other day, and be forced to
 work on weekend + holidays
 for straight time I am
 against this bill

Don't mess with our over time
 we like it just the way it is
 I have been working in Alaska
 for 20 yrs.

SIGNED Jesus Pina
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO Box 75245 FBKS AK. 488-7406
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE House of Representatives
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

Please don't pass this Bill!

I believe people walking more than 8 hrs a day,
are more subject to accidents, because of tiredness.
Walking 12 hrs a day without extra compensation
isn't fair to them, it only makes for a better
profit for the company.

SIGNED Gisela Stone
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 58051 FBKS, AK 99711 488-4308
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
... COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT

I think this bill would be detrimental to the Alaskan wage earner. Some employers will use the "voluntary" flexwork hour plan to coerce the worker to do whatever is to the benefit of the employer. This bill will affect many Alaskans who work those 8+ hour days. This bill is not in the best interest of the employee. I can't see why anybody would want this, except for maybe some employer(s) wanting to cut costs somewhere.

SIGNED Tom Jaeger
TESTIFIER

IBEW
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

4062 Deborah Dr. Juneau, AK 99801 790-3481
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR + CONGRESS
 COMMITTEE ON CONGRESS + LABOR ^{HOUSE BILL 68} COMMITTEE NAME
 DATED JAN 27
 BILL/SUBJECT

I have been a Alaskan since 1980 and see no reason we should change the law to satisfy a Canadian Co. a working man not only his wages to support his family and I strongly urge that we don't take the overtime pay away from him + Give it to a Canadian Co.

None of the other open pit mines, Usabelli coal on Kominco at Red dog mine have asked for Relief and I see this as another way to Rip off the working man.

I have not been active in Politics but after seeing this bill I shall be more involved in the future to assure this state does not pass laws to drive the working man any further down than he is.

SIGNED Robert E McGill
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO Box 56197 North Pole AK 99705 488 8948
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor Commerce
 COMMITTEE ON Bill # 68 DATED JAN 27 97
BILL/SUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

My Name is Chrystal Kasidowski
 I've been a resident of Alaska for
 8 1/2 years. and I'm vehemently opposed
 to the tactics that the Kmax mine
 is trying to put into place. The
 reason is simple:

Why should you
 take money away from a
 working man or woman and freely
 give it to not only give it to
 a company but a out of state
 company. So they can make a
 profit. Why should we allow a
 company like this to come up here to our
 great state of Alaska and try to make
 working slaves out of people. I suggest

SIGNED Chrystal Kasidowski
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

~~XXXXXX~~ 2761 Parkway Apt 2 WPAle 9970
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

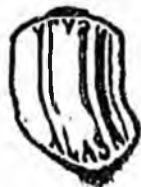
if they don't like the way we do things
 up here. they go back to where they come from.
 and try that garbage on their own people. As you can
 see that mess don't go down there either

I FEEL THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT GOES BEYOND JUST THE FORT KNOX MINE & ITS' WORKERS. THIS BILL WILL ALSO IMPACT OTHER MINES WORKERS AS WELL, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER OR NOT IT IS CALLED A "VOLUNTARY FLEXIBLE WORK PLAN." FOR THIS REASON I FEEL THE REMAINDER OF THE ALASKA WORK FORCE SHOULD NOT ONLY BE HEARD BUT LISTENED TO WITH REGARD TO THEIR (OUR) WISHES CONCERNING HB-68 @ AND ANY OTHER PROPOSED CHANGES TO ANY LABOR LAWS.

INCIDENTALLY, MY HUSBAND IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYEED AT USIBELLI COAL MINE AND PRIOR TO THIS HE ALSO WAS EMPLOYED BY VALDEZ CREEK GOLD MINE. SO I RECOGNIZE THE INDUSTRY WELL AND THE HARD WORK THAT DESERVES TO BE REWARDED AS INTENDED BY THE HARD WON LABOR LAWS CURRENTLY ON THE BOOKS.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



TO THESE WORKERS.

WHILE IT IS STATED THIS LAW WOULD BE ON A "VOLUNTARY FLEXIBLE WORK PLAN" HOWEVER, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT WOULD BE A ONE TIME PLAN, BECAUSE, WERE IT EVER VOTED IN AT A GIVEN JOB SITE IT WOULD NO LONGER BE VOLUNTARY.

I FEEL THE WORKERS AT FORT KNOX MINE HAVE NOT BEEN MADE AWARE OF OR GIVEN ANY OTHER OPTIONS AND FURTHERMORE THAT THEY DO NOT FULLY REALIZE THE RAMIFICATIONS OF WHAT THEY ARE TRYING TO DO.

TO THESE WORKERS.

WHILE IT IS STATED THIS LAW WOULD BE ON A "VOLUNTARY FLEXIBLE WORK PLAN" HOWEVER, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT WOULD BE A ONE TIME PLAN, BECAUSE, WERE IT EVER VOTED IN AT A GIVEN JOB SITE IT WOULD NO LONGER BE VOLUNTARY.

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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & COMMERCE
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB - 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I ADAMATLY OPPOSE HB-68.

THE CURRENT LABOR LAW IS THERE FOR A REASON.
WERE HB-68 PASSED INTO LAW IT WOULD HAVE WIDESPREAD
REPURCUSSIONS WITH REGARD TO THE LIVELYHOOD OF, FIRST, THE
SURFACE MINERS AND, SECOND, TO ALL WORKERS ACROSS THE
STATE OF ALASKA.

THE PASSING OF HB-68 WOULD BE THE FOOT IN THE DOOR TO
FURTHER ERODE LABOR LAWS WITH REGARD TO OVERTIME ^(O.T.) PAY.
LABOR LAWS WERE ENACTED TO HELP INSURE EQUITABLE PAY
FOR WORK PERFORMANCE AS WELL AS WORKER SAFETY.

THE REASON GIVEN FOR THE PROPOSAL OF THIS AMENDMENT TO
CURRENT LABOR LAWS, IS DUE TO COMUTE TIME NECESSARY
FOR MANY OF ~~13~~ WORKERS EACH DAY. PERHAPS SOME THOUGHT
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SAFETY CONCERNS NOT ONLY ON THE
JOB, BUT ALSO TO THE WORKERS & OTHER DRIVERS WHO
WOULD SHARE THE ROADS WITH THEM AFTER THEY HAVE
WORKED THESE LONGER SHIFTS.

THERE ARE NO DOUBT OTHER OPTIONS WHICH COULD PUT FORTH

SIGNED Carol E. Demoyers TESTIFIER PLEASE SEE OTHER
SIDE

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 33 HEALY, AK. 99743
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I am opposed to HB 68 for the following reasons.

1. It will affect workers down the road, other contractors will love to see this happen so they can do the same.
2. Look at the track record of Fort Knox mine. Not sticking with commitment to hire Alaskan workers, what's next.
3. Coercion is another concern, because those employees are not going to jeopardize their jobs.
4. Fort Knox mine should cut into their profit margin instead of the workers overtime.
5. This is a progressive type request. The Oil companies up north have reduced wages from 20% to 30%, reduced travel pay, reduced overtime pay ratios. Workers have taken cuts across the board, and they still want more. We must stop this before it starts.

this will affect workers across the state, in all trades. Maybe not late away but it will.

SIGNED

TESTIFIER

Julius Matthews
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL) Self - member of Local 1547 I.B.E.W.

3075 Treaty St North Fairbanks AK 99705
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(38)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 COMMITTEE NAME
 BILL/SUBJECT DATED 1-27-97

I am opposed to this proposed legislation.

I feel this would affect other surface mining and possibly other industry in Alaska.

I also feel labor studies show, for people working in heavy industrial jobs with equipment and harmful large materials, there is an increase in accidents ~~with~~ which is very important in these type jobs.

What the real cost would be if workers were paid 10 hrs straight and 2 hrs 1/2 hours, which was said to be 1 1/2 million dollars, but management has stated there would be some cost savings with the savings in making 1 less shift change.

SIGNED

Ron Punton

TESTIFIER

myself

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 20894

907-457-1619

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labour & Commerce Exec
 COMMITTEE NAME
 COMMITTEE ON HR 108 DATED 1-27-97
 BILL/SUBJECT

*It is an unfair labor practice.
 If you work DOT you should get
 paid overtime.*

SIGNED Catherine E. Hoback
 TESTIFIER

Labors
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

455 3rd Ave #520 99701
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(36)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE COMMERCE & LABOR
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

*I oppose HB 68 because I believe it
 will set the working man back 50YRS
 OR MORE.*

SIGNED *James H. [Signature]*
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

300 Howard Rd #2 FBHS AK 99712 457-1411
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

I oppose this bill because it may set a precedence affecting all Alaskan workers in the future.

I feel that the workers at the mine and mine management can come to an agreement on this issue without changing state statutes.

Respectfully,
 Steve Cuppy
 (Paul S Cuppy)

SIGNED Paul S Cuppy
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
Dixon Apts. 100-10 AVENUE APT 2.B-5
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER
 Fairbanks, AK 99701



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____
 COMMITTEE ON _____ DATED _____
 BILL/SUBJECT _____

THE EROSION of MANY jobs in the Blue collar sector must be halted. America AND ALASKA IN PARTICULAR WAS built on the PRIDE AND HANDS ON work of MANY working class people. BEING A member of the I.B.E.W. I AM constantly redefining my skills AND knowledge in the electrical industry, my FAMILY IS PARAMOUNT AND my work ethic IS FLAWLESS. WE will HAVE A FAIR STANDARD of living based on A FAIR DAYS WORK. I REPRESENT my TRADE AND community well AND will continue to do so. HOWEVER, WE must put the PRIDE back in making A FAIR living, which this bill will NOT accomplish.

SIGNED Chris Blumhagen
 TESTIFIER

I BEW AND WORKING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

655 UNIVERSITY AVE FAIRBANK AK 99709
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER 907-479-5559



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Ned Griffin
 COMMITTEE ON WAGE BILL DATED 1-27-97
 BILL/SUBJECT

In protest of Wage Bill 68
 the way I read this Bill they say
 to be have 12 under law. BILL 68 is
 wrong A Employer could just go to
 2-12 hr shift and just eliminate
 1 shift. The Employer could work
 around the clock and pay to Overtime

SIGNED Ned M. Griffin
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor & Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT

I support HB 68 for the following reasons:

- 1) The passage will allow people to spend more time with their families
- 2) It will reduce the number of trips an employee must make to the mine thereby saving money for the employee & reducing environmental impact of vehicle emissions.
- 3) employees will be happier with a better shift rotation & be able to enjoy the things Alaska has to offer, outdoors & indoors.

Please pass HB 68

SIGNED Ken B. Stou
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
145 Cindy Dr Fairbanks AK 99701 1/58-0375
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I AM AGAINST THIS BILL.

12 HRS A DAY IS TOO LONG A DAY,
NOT TO GET ANY OVERTIME.

SIGNED Loren Swarner (LOREN SWARNER)
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

215 5th AVE FRES-99701 452-7163
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE labor & Commerce (i.e.)
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON House Bill No. 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I oppose this bill

SIGNED *William A. ...*
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL) (907) 457-2068
36 Colledge Rd Ste. 2180 Fairbanks AK 99709
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(24)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE labor + Commerce
 COMMITTEE NAME
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
 BILL/SUBJECT

I am in favor of this bill.

SIGNED Gene Benedict
 TESTIFIER
my family
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
77 Slater Dr #14 Fairbanks AK 99701
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labour + Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

Some of the workers I talked to before this Bill came out, biggest complaint was the rotating shift. One week Day shift, One week swing shift, One week nite shift. They said they'd rather work one shift on a regular basis all the time.

From what I've seen Fairbanks Gold has not done a whole lot for this community and the State to be in a position to have State laws changed, to ruin the conditions of all working people. Have we forgotten about Tic/Osborn both out-of-state contractors and the advertising they ran in newspapers to bring out-of-state workers up here, to take local jobs and to pay them extra to move up here and to leave.

House Bill 68 does not affect Only Fairbanks Gold. It affects everyone, Usibelli Coal mine, Red Dog mine, any surface mine including all gravel pits and all crusher work at those pits. Also the way I've seen it written it would include every working person in this state. Is this what we all want? Are our representatives working for Fairbanks Gold now? Or are they working for everyone?

Some simple math will tell what Fairbank Gold potential could be. The newspaper quoted Fairbank Gold cost estimate at \$215⁰⁰ per ounce. At a selling price of \$350⁰⁰ an ounce that's 135⁰⁰ an ounce profit. At full production, estimates are 1,000 ounces per day that's \$135,000⁰⁰ a day, times 365 days per year the total is \$49,275,000⁰⁰ yearly profit. They can't afford \$1.5 million in overtime to the workers that are helping them make this profit. Let's give their workers something, instead of taking from all the workers in the state

SIGNED R. M. Staley Richard Staley
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 55882 North Pole AK 99705
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor & Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB-68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT

I am opposed to HB 68 and any variations that might come up in the near future.

I don't believe one group should be exempted or be able to change state law by themselves.

I believe that ANY compromises on the payment of overtime will ultimately take AWAY from all citizens of the state.

SIGNED James W. Hall
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 373 Healy, Alaska (907) 683-2796
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor & Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB-68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I am opposed to this bill and any amendments Rep. Sherrault would in the future propose. by allowing one group of employees to coerce legislation that could affect the state as a whole at some time in the future is not in the best interest of our state.

SIGNED Terese Hall
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO Box 373 Healy AK 99743

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

683-2796

(27)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labor's Cause
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 27 Jan 1997
BILL/SUBJECT

I am an employee of Ford Knox - this Bill would affect me & my family directly! - I am in favor of this Bill and ask your support in getting it passed.

With the Chemical Process we use - the plant must run 24 Hrs a day, 365 days a year. You cannot just turn a switch to stop these chemical reactions. But my life must go on also. I missed 4 of my children growing up ~~working~~ rotating shifts. I have worked 8 Hrs & 12 Hrs rotating and by for 12 Hrs gives me more ~~the~~ "quality" time with my family. I've been there - I know! Please give me your support! Thank you

SIGNED [Signature] Employee # 210
TESTIFIER
→ "Myself"
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
724 Louz Road Adfc 99712
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(19)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR Com.
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

*I oppose this bill, because
it would set the working
class people back to the
dark ages,*

SIGNED *Jimmy P. Dixon*
TESTIFIER
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Joint Commerce
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I'm apposed to this Bill because if you let companies come into Alaska saying they work their going to create will benefit Alaskans. But when they here they try to twist or bend the laws to most benefit their pocket books. Just like the oil companies up in the north slope. We had the slope as far as Alaska worker because they bring in people from down south that will work for pennies and that's not right to Alaska or for Alaskans I don't think we should be out for the Oil Comp. or Fort Knox. I think if we let Fort Knox bend our laws like the Oil Co's have were going to be in sinking ship with just a guy to bail the water out. And pretty soon Alaska will go down.

SIGNED [Signature]
TESTIFIER

IBEW Local 1547
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

2685 SHADY LAKE RD. AK 99705
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce & Labor
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

Concerning HB 68, I am adamantly opposed to this bill as it is an insult to all working people.

To enact this bill will be the ruination of safety & working conditions that this nation has fought for since the start of the 'Industrial revolution'.

Maybe the proponents of this bill are not worth any overtime pay, but I seriously doubt that any of these so-called supportive employees realizes what the real objectives of their bosses are!

Employees please realize the elimination of this overtime pay, is only the beginning of your own demise!

I hope you wake up before it's too late!

SIGNED Clyde D. Lorenz
 TESTIFIER

Laborer's 942
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. 73114 Fairbanks, AK 99707 457-7106
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(Handwritten mark)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce Labor
 COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 1-27-97
 BILL/SUBJECT oppose HB 68 because it

I Bill R. Williams ^{oppose HB 68 because it} have lived & worked in Alaska for the past 30 years my children were reared here. I have worked construction for many years, construction jobs are generally short lived not "permanant" I believe the House bill 68 if passed will give all employers in Alaska a foot in the door to take away overtime in which we need to make it. Passing a bill to satisfy the employer of less than 250 people, which will greatly affect 60 to 80 thousand other workers is not right nor is it good for the State of Alaska. These companies want to take the riches out of Alaska at low cost, and put this on the back of the working man.

SIGNED Bill R. Williams
 TESTIFIER

Individual
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 83279 FBKS, AK. 99708
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER 458-7248

Res. 305 6th ave FBKS, AK. 99207



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commercial Labor
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I Steve Morgan feel if this Bill is passed, it will affect my income, I feel if certain individuals want to work 10 or 12 hrs at straight time, than let them But do not make it a law

SIGNED Steve Morgan
TESTIFIER
Teamsters # 459
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
440 old Rich # 218 907-452-8908
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER
Fairbanks, AK 99701



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce and Labor
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

I am not for HB 68 in that it may jeopardize
 over time a 8 hours at place of work
 at Usibull: Coal Mine. The Fort Knox
 mine employees may join a Union and
 design a work sch. to meet there needs.

There are other open pit mines in the
 state of Alaska which do not want a
 12 hr. work day at stright Time.

I feel other industry's could and would
 abuse this 12 hour work days.

There is also Bills pending at Washington
 D.C. that also could ~~make~~ make this
 bill not Fair and hard to manage.

Dupt. of Labor does not have a large Staff
 to ~~police~~ police the certificate of approval.

SIGNED George R. Hasker
 TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 171, Healy, Alaska 99743
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

683-1306



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LARSEN & Controversial
 COMMITTEE ON HR 68 DATED 1-27-97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

I am against this Bill because to me
 it is dictatorship. Let the Unions have a vote
 this way you will get an answer & that
 should solve all problems.

SIGNED James G. Hartley
 TESTIFIER
LARSEN
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 42906 Fairbanks AK 99707
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & COMMERCE
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

this is BAD LABOR LAW...

WHAT MAY BE OK FOR FORT KNOX WOULD BE
 BAD STATE WIDE. THE JOBS I TAKE ARE
 UNDERSTOOD TO BE 7 DAY/WK. JOBS; THIS LAW
 WOULD BE A PAY CUT AT THE BEGINNING ~~OF~~ AND
 END OF EACH JOB & ON ALL SHORT CALLS.

I HAVE BEEN WORKING IN ALASKA
 22 YRS. DON'T GIVE ME A PAYCUT TO
 COSY UP TO AN ALASKA HIRE UNFRIENDLY
 COMPANY.

SIGNED Eric Carvalho
 TESTIFIER ERIC CARVALHO

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
PO 83417 FBKS AK, 99708
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(11)



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR/COMMERCE
COMMITTEE NAME
 COMMITTEE ON HR 68 DATED 27 JAN 97
BILLSUBJECT

HR 68 IS BASICALLY AN ATTEMPT
 TO REDUCE ^{FURTHER} WAGES THAT (PARTICULARLY
 IN THE CASE OF PORT HADZ) ARE ALREADY RATHER
 SUBSTANDARD. IT'S ALSO ABOUT A CANADIAN
 COMPANY TRYING TO GET AWAY WITH SOMETHING
 THEY WOULD (PROBABLY BE JAILED FOR IN
 CANADA.

SIGNED Henry B McNeal
TESTIFIER
TEAMSTERS 959
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
3263 RBPP ROAD NORTH POLE
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

(10)

HP OfficeJet
Personal Printer/Fax/Copier

Fax Log Report

Jan-28-97 08:39 AM

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Diagnostic</u>
9074563346	Error on page 11	11	Received	Jan-28	08:31A	00:04:38	021502030000413

7.00



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Labour & Commerce
 COMMITTEE NAME
 COMMITTEE ON #68/Flexible Workhours DATED 1-27-97
 BILLSUBJECT

As a employee of a current Surface mine. I am a Full time employee and have been for 20 years. I oppose the changes in the current overtime laws. Most people do not understand but the overtime hours are our hardest hours of work. Usually equipment is broken, frozen or just Picky about running. With this being the case it is our hardest and most frustrating hours of the day. A person should be compensated by the rate of 1 1/2 times the current rate after 8 hours. Also I am concerned about how voluntary this will be for future employees. I am concerned about my ability to make a decent wage to raise a family etc.

I am Opposed to this Bill making it my
 Further Kill it

SIGNED L Scott Killian TESTIFIER

Self
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 341 Healy Alaska 99743 (907) 683-2550
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & COMMERCE
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1-27-1997
BILL SUBJECT

I DANIEL M CLASPILL WORK AT USIBELLI
COAL CO. I AM HERE SAY THAT ALL THE
MEN AND WOMEN AT USIBELLI OPPOSE THE
PASSAGE OF THIS BILL (HB 68). I HAVE
BEEN AT THE MINE FOR 13 YEARS AND OVERTIME
IS ALWAYS AN ISSUE. WE CONSISTANTLY VOTED
DOWN ANY PREPOSAL TO GIVE UP OVERTIME
FOR TIME OFF.

SIGNED Daniel M. Claspill
TESTIFIER

NON COMPANY PEOPLE AT USIBELLI COAL CO.
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

PO. Box 397 HEALY ALASKA 99743 683-2459
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce + Labor
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED Jan 27, 97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILL/SUBJECT

as a blue collar worker in Alaska for the last 16 years. I am adamantly opposed to this legislation. I feel threatened by it. In a job area that has no real job security this legislation would directly effect my earning potential. This legislation doesn't really provide anything for the employee. I feel that it is just another cost saving measure. payed for by the employees themselves.

SIGNED David L. Kirsch
 TESTIFIER
Self
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
880 Middleton North Pt. E 488-5631
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & Com.
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON LABOR 68 DATED 1/27/97
BILL/SUBJECT

H.B. 68 is micro management of industry. Scheduling problems w/in the Ft Knox mine is their problem. Eroding workers rights state-wide is not the answer. Many mines operate under the law and thrive. Ft. Knox needs to look at their Management for answers not the state Legislature.

Thank You,

SIGNED Richard J. Gaul
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

849 BOHNET DR. FBX, AK 99712
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Labor + Commerce

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Wage + Hour
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON AB 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

*I can't believe you'd even consider working
anyone 12 hrs. with no overtime, not even under
emergency conditions.*

SIGNED *Alice J. Decker*
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

P.O. Box 10525 (1673 Gold Pkwy) Fbks. AK. 99716
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE _____

COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON

HB 68

DATED

1- -97

BILL/SUBJECT

PLEASE PASS HB 68 - SO THAT I MAY WORK
 A REASONABLE SHIFT, SPEND MORE TIME
 WITH MY FAMILY, MORE TIME FISHING
 & HUNTING & SPEND LESS TIME & MONEY
 COMMITTING TO WORK
 10 & 12 HR. SHIFTS CAN & HAVE BEEN
 WORKED SAFELY. ALLOW ME TO
 HELP SET MY OWN SCHEDULE!

SIGNED

TESTIFIER

Kevin Brown

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Commerce Lobby
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 1-27-97
BILL/SUBJECT

I Terry J. Benzo feel that if this bill is passed it will impact my income in a way that can harm my whole family. And also can harm the rest of the residents in the state of Alaska.

We have been paid over time for over 8 hours a day every year I have been here in the state of Alaska.

SIGNED

Terry J. Benzo
TESTIFIER

7405 302
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

4400d Richardson Hwy. Fairbanks Alaska 99701
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR IN COMMERCE
 COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 1/26/97
BILLSUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

I just want to express my opposition to the proposal of House bill 68. I feel that the passing of such a bill would be a step backwards for the labor movement. It's hard to believe that Pete Kelly could allow his name to be associated with such an injustice. If our elected representatives can't see where this bill is a big mistake then hopefully TOM CASHEN will do the right thing.

SIGNED Saverio S. Pelen
 TESTIFIER
IBEW
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
Fairbanks AK 456 3731
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

2



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE LABOR & COMMERCE
 COMMITTEE ON HB 108 DATED 1.27.97
COMMITTEE NAME
BILLSUBJECT

How many different ways can you say it?
 By passing this amendment will be taking
 a major step backward in the development
 of employees rights that had been won over the
 past 100 years, ~~After that time our knowledge~~
~~has been~~ The idea of this amendment is
 unrolling to working people of Alaska. I am
 strongly opposed to HB 108 and I hope that our
 elected representatives (who are supposed to
 represent us not large corporations?) see that this
 amendment is thrown out!

SIGNED Kristal Hutchinson
 TESTIFIER
IBEW 1547 102
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)
P.O. Box 160003 FBRS, AK 99706
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

①



TELECOPY COVER SHEET

Fairbanks Legislative Information Office

Office - (907) 452-4448

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TO: House L+C Cmte FAX: _____ PHONE: _____

FROM: Fbx L10 PHONE: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Written testimony for HL+C teleconference
held on 1/27 on HB 68 - sent in batches of
20

RECEIVED: Date _____ Time _____

SENT: Date 1/27/96 Time _____

DISPOSAL OF ORIGINAL: Discard _____ Hold for Pickup _____

NUMBER OF PAGES: 70 (Not counting cover sheet)

SENT BY: Fran

HB

68

File 4

MAR 27 1997

To: Bill Hudson

I Corey Baxter do not support H.B. 68, which increases the work day to twelve hours without overtime. This Bill is nonsense and it should be denied.

Corey Baxter

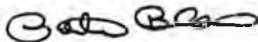
INTERIOR DELEGATION: E H L & C

I have been following the seemingly fast track of House Bill 68 regarding the 12 hour work day at straight time pay. Fairbanks Gold is obviously hiding behind the guise that this is a request of the employees and that working 12 hours a day **WITHOUT** compensation is somehow an employee benefit. Looking at the schedule the employees are presently working it is apparent Fairbanks Gold has no regard for the employee's right to maintain a stable work schedule. I am certain their self serving attempt to increase straight time hours does not lie in the best interest of the employee, on the contrary, they have made the statement in the News Miner article they could not afford to pay employees to work on an overtime basis. These are most likely the same statements made by Employers 100 years ago when we had no laws to protect the American worker. It would seem a great travesty to alter in any way, the existing laws that protect the Alaskan worker, some of whom so gallantly fought, at a great economic hardship, for the right to limit the working day to 8 hours for straight time pay.

Is this the same company who, during construction, failed to oppose it's subcontractors out-of-state hiring practices. Now they want Alaskan Legislators to change labor law so they might line their own pockets with Alaskan gold on the sweat of Alaskan labor.

I urge you, **DO NOT SUPPORT HB 68.**

Sincerely,



Pete Blair
P.O. Box 72204
Fairbanks, Ak. 99707

RICHARD M. STALEY
P. O. BOX 55882
NORTH POLE, AK 99705

MAR 14 1997

March 11, 1997

Representative Norman Rokeberg
State Capitol, Room 24
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

Why has House Bill 68 been perceived as a union versus non-union issue? Truth is, a lot of non-union and union workers do not want this to pass. The real issue is that one very small group of workers and Fairbanks Gold want to change Wage and Hour Laws to benefit themselves and, in the end, bring down all workers' conditions.

When the proposed bill first came into the Labor and Commerce Committee, it encompassed all surface mining operations. The Bill would have included all metals, coal, gravel pits, peat pits and any operation that stripped material from the earth's surface. After much uproar the bill was rewritten several times and the wording changed to satisfy the needs of Fairbanks Gold and the 243 employees. The change was made to include precious metals surface mining in a year-round operation. Now, if that isn't scaled down to fit Fairbanks Gold and their employees. Why are some of our representatives trying to change State Wage and Hour Laws for Fairbanks Gold? Why is it that the sponsors and biggest pushers of this bill are from the Fairbanks area? What is in it for them? How many more laws do they want to change? Where will this all end; when we are all working in sweat shops again? Fairbanks Gold and these representatives would like us all to believe that this bill only applies to Fort Knox mine and Red Dog Mine; it does not. What about Illinois Creek near Nulato and Alaska Gold in Nome?

Fairbanks Gold has spent over \$100,000.00 lobbying for this law. Fairbanks Gold has also been paying for airfare and room and board for their employees to fly to Juneau to testify before the House about how this bill would benefit them. Are we so blind not to see who is really pushing this Bill? If it did not benefit Fairbanks Gold, why are they paying for their employees' expenses to Juneau?

The Labor Community is fighting for the rights of all workers; which is the majority of workers in Alaska. What will happen next if this Bill passes? What company will lobby for House Bill 68 for themselves. Can the legislatures say "no" to the next company that wants this bill? How could they say "no" to one company, after giving it to Fairbanks Gold? Watch out Alaska workers, if we start giving up what took blood and sweat to get, both non-union and union workers alike will end up with working conditions which took many years and hours of hard work to secure.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Staley
Richard M. Staley

Please Vote No!

Changing Alaska Labor laws for the benefit of Fort Knox employees

House
Labor and Commerce Committee
Rep. Rokeberg, Chair

FEB 05 1997

Dear Representative,

I have worked for union and non-union employers. Some have treated me well others have not. I always had the choice of continuing employment with each one though. The proposal from Fort Knox mine to change the overtime laws to 12 hour days is wrong. I don't want to work a 12 hour day. This is a standard from the 18th century or third world countries. If the employees at Fort Knox don't like the work week rotation they can find another job more conducive to their liking. Don't force me to make changes in my work life to make a employment situation that some, entered at their choice, more palatable, at my expense.

I think this issue should be debated extensively. I worked for the "Alaskan" (?) contractor involved with construction and hiring at Fort Knox and watched many jobs go to residents of other states over Alaska residents. I have also at other times worked for employers who hired extensively outside the State of Alaska. I don't want to focus too long on this issue, but support of these employers has been the stance of past State legislative bodies. Wages not spent in the State of Alaska are a export of wealth. The point being taken here is if the Fort Knox employees don't like the shifts then should step aside and open their positions to local residents who will work the shifts.

There are other local industries that work rotating shifts. MAPCO in North Pole has for years. This is something that their employees accept as a condition of employment.

The issue of rotating shifts was known to applicants to Fort Knox. Friends that applied stated this to me, some decided not to apply, some did. None are working at Fort Knox now though. All where qualified, I wonder if because some of them had past union affiliation was a reason of not being hired.

Most of my employment in Alaska for the past 20 years has been in the outside environment, a condition that most construction is in. I am a expert on working in miserable conditions. At the end of 8 hours I am tired, cold, and wet. A hot shower is all I want. If the employer wants me to continue working after 8 hour that day, then compensate me for the added hours of misery.

Another issue, when I worked for Alaska Petroleum Contractors at the North Pole refinery I signed a form that was negotiated with the Alaska State labor office that stated that the company (APC) could pay me straight time until I accumulated 40 hours. This was used twice during my employment at MAPCO. The first time was when we took three days off for Thanksgiving and then again at Christmas. Both times worked 10 hrs. a day, for three days, in those weeks and was paid 30 hours of straight time. If this is legal for APC then why can't this waiver be used for Fort Knox? Maybe you could check up on this and send me a answer.

Most of the jobs at Fort Knox at this time are inside or in a warm, dry piece of equipment, not in the harsh weather outside. Changing the 8 hour day for all Alaskans will be a miserable expense that I and others will have to pay.

I suppose that I have a choice, too; perhaps if this proposal is ratified I can seek employment in another field, move to another state, seek state employment, or run for political office. We all have choices. So do the employees of Fort Knox. Don't make drastic changes for all Alaskans just to make life easier for a select few without looking at all the options.

Sincerely yours,
Ward Person
P.O. Box 81707
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Terry J. Quirk
PO Box 11-1115
Anchorage, Alaska, 99511

**REFERENDUM
TO THE
ALASKA LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

The 8-hour workday with overtime over 8 was given to the American workers and their families by the United States Federal Government some 50 years ago. This action and legislation was found necessary due to the exploitation of American workers in the mines, factories and other sweatshops of the day.

The rights that our legislative forefathers won for the American Worker were intended to provide all future generations with a better life than generations before us. The labor laws of our land are sealed with the Blood, Sweat and Tears of the American worker.

Labor Rights, just as constitutional rights, civil rights and the like, are entrusted to our elected government officials of this land to Protect, not Give Away, these rights and conditions.

By passing IIB 68, the Alaska Legislative Body would be trying to return the Alaskan worker to that very day some 50 years ago that our forefathers so hard fought to take us from. One stepping stone at a time, there are those in government, such as the authors of H.B.68, who are traitors to the trust of the Alaskan people, who would deliver the Alaskan Worker to Third World Status.

There is a much more sensible approach to solving this hypothetical dilemma at the Fort Knox Mine without having to rewrite Alaska Labor Law to do so as I will point out based on the hourly rate of: \$19.05 per hour that the shovel operator at the mine is now receiving (according to shovel operators' testimony given on 1-29-97 during the legislative teleconference hearing).

The proposed change (IIB68) would allow employees to work 14 days every 4 weeks including 16 hrs Overtime. Translated this means that if the current

pay scale is \$19.05 per hr that the employee and the company agree that the employee will work 7 days straight, 12 hrs per day for \$1,676.40 per week. This workweek would begin on Thursday and end on the following Wednesday for the purpose of this demonstration.

Instead the company could adjust the hourly rate of this worker, within the already existing parameters of the labor law and working the same Thursday thru Wednesday work week, to \$17.11 per hr. The worker could agree to this on a voluntary basis and under existing State Labor Laws work 7-12 hr shifts for the same \$1,676.40 per week. This way the company gets its scheduling the way it wants it; the workers are working their 7-12 hr days; the workers are making exactly the same amount of money for the time worked; and most importantly: **THE EXISTING STATE LABOR LAWS PREVAIL WITHOUT CHANGE** which will make me and many others happy.

There are many possible combinations of numbers possible to make the bottom line turn out so that the employees are making the same weekly paycheck with it remaining the same for the cost to the employer, among those possibilities, i.e., paying the workers a salary versus an hourly wage.

The cries by both the Fort Knox Goldmine employer and the employees that work there, that "they have to have this HB68 in order to work out their scheduling problems," IS A FARCE. There is no problem there that a good bookkeeper or accountant could not figure out without having to rewrite State Labor Law to do so.

I am a working man, a registered voter and a resident of The Last Frontier State of Alaska for 23 years. I personally spend much of my time working on remote site jobs for extended periods, often two months or more in duration before returning home to see my family. I am a family man with two boys (11 and 15) and a wonderful wife of 23 years. Sure it is difficult sometimes but we have adapted and always been able to manage our situation. It is the nature of working in Alaska. Not once in my career can I say that by changing the standard workday to 12 hours from the current 8 hours that anything about my or my family's situation would have improved. The only possible other result would have been that I might have probably not been making as much money as I have made over the years.

I cannot help thinking that HB68 has alterer motives attached to it that are solely designed and intended to erode and ultimately destroy the benefits and conditions of working-class people of the State of Alaska. These mine workers speak about

family values very loosely and I resent them associating family value with the deterioration of working conditions that probably will someday if not immediately affect my family and me. My family and I place a great deal of value on the compensation we receive as wages and overtime for the sacrifices we make when we cannot be together as a family because of work scheduling.

I AM OPPOSED TO HOUSE BILL 68 and I ask that the Hearing Committee and the Legislative Body OPPOSE IT ALSO.

Thankyou Sincerely,

Terry J. Quirk



Greater Fairbanks

Chamber

APR 28 1997
of Commerce

250 Cushman Street, Suite 2D

(907) 452-1105

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4665

FAX (907) 456-6968

April 23, 1997

Representative Norman Rokenberg
Room 24
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Rokenberg:

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce has been having intense discussions and debate concerning the request from Fort Knox Mine for legislation to allow 12 hour work days without incurring overtime until after a 40-hour week. Attached is a copy of the resolution passed 14-1 by the Board of Directors on April 21 which explains the position of the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce on the issue.

In addition to debate and information provided by the public in Fairbanks, the chamber also polled its 426 business members on the issue. By a 2:1 margin, the membership encouraged the chamber to stay involved in the issue and by a 3:1 margin they felt that the entire labor law issue in Alaska needs review and revision or reconstituted as appropriate. The chamber, as representatives of the Fairbanks business community feels that it is absolutely necessary to level the playing field for all Alaska workers and to create an environment which will allow all workers and employers to determine their own destiny. Creating additional exceptions to current law is only a "band-aid" remedy to an already flawed law.

Stability in labor law is essential to creating an environment in which industry knows the rules and can depend on an unchanging playing field. Fairbanks is on the verge of a mining surge and it is important that the issue is dealt with early as these mines are in the exploration and development stages. The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce encourages the Governor, his commissioners and the Alaska State Legislature to carefully review current state law, determine the short-comings and to consider either revision or creation of new law which will accomplish the needs of the worker and business. A task force composed of stakeholders might be an appropriate vehicle. The chamber is eager to work with the administration and the legislature in accomplishing what is right for the worker, the economy and business in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Kevin Krauklis
Chairman of the Board



Greater Fairbanks

Chamber of Commerce

250 Cushman Street, Suite 20

(907) 457-1105

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4665

FAX: (907) 456-6968

Introduced by: Governmental Affairs Committee
 Date Introduced: April 14, 1997
 Date Passed: April 21, 1997
 Date Transmitted: April 22, 1997

RESOLUTION 97-042197

**A RESOLUTION BY THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF
 COMMERCE ALLOWING TWELVE-HOUR WORK DAYS/FORTY
 HOUR WORK WEEKS AT HARD-ROCK SURFACE MINES IN ALASKA.**

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks economy is significantly enhanced by a healthy mining industry; and

WHEREAS, Two Hundred Forty-One out of Two Hundred Forty-Three employees currently working at Fort Knox Mine are seeking a twelve-hour work day; and

WHEREAS, these same miners have requested the State Legislature to pass enabling legislation permitting a twelve-hour work day with overtime being paid over forty hours of work; and

WHEREAS, the request also seeks to protect those few miners who do not desire a twelve-hour work day; and

WHEREAS, the reasons for the request include more aggregate pay, more time with families, safer shift exchanges and travel; and

WHEREAS, forty-nine of fifty of the United States allow mining workers the same hours and conditions as requested; and

WHEREAS, Sec. 23.10.060 of Alaska Statutes already has sixteen exemptions to when overtime is paid under the eight-hour work day/forty-hour work week rule. These exemptions allow seamen and employees in agriculture, health care, trucking, telephone utilities, timber, and union workers in any industry to work up to a twelve-hour work day within forty hours per week before accruing overtime. For all work over twelve hours per day and forty hours per week the mandatory overtime requirement still applies; and

WHEREAS, the unorganized employees covered by the provisions of the enabling legislation will still retain the right to organize if they deem it desirable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, the enabling legislation will equalize the rights of organized and unorganized workers in surface metal mines in Alaska by allowing them to choose their own destiny as United States citizens, to work with management to establish work schedules and to enhance the freedoms already enjoyed by the groups identified in the sixteen exemptions in existing law; and

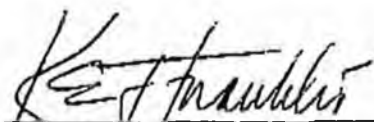
BE IT RESOLVED that the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce encourages the governor, his commissioners, and the Alaska Legislature to undertake a comprehensive review of Section 23.10.060 in order to develop a law that provides workers and employers the freedom to develop the schedule of their choice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce encourages the Governor of the State of Alaska, his commissioners, and the Alaska Legislature to give their support to passage of legislation designed to level the playing field for all employees of the surface mining industry.

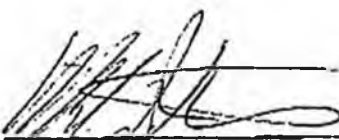
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this resolution be distributed to:

Alaska U.S. Congressional Delegation
Governor of the State of Alaska
Alaska State Legislators
Fairbanks North Star Borough
City of Fairbanks
City of North Pole
Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
Fort Knox Mine
Amax Gold, Inc.

PASSED in Fairbanks, Alaska this 21st day of April, 1997 by the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Board of Director.



Kevin J. Krauklis
Chairman of the Board



William J. Robertson
President/CEO

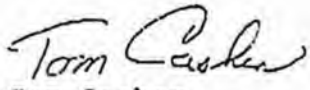
MEMORANDUM**STATE OF ALASKA**
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of the Commissioner

TO: Rep. Norm Rokeberg
Chairman
House Labor and Commerce

DATE: January 29, 1997

FILE: gutotlaw

PHONE: 465-2700

FROM: 
Tom Cashen
Commissioner

SUBJECT: Response to
Questions on
Alternative Work
Week Schemes

The following information is provided in response to questions from the chair and other members of your committee in the hearing of January 27.

All assume an average hourly wage of \$17.50 per hour and a four week rotation schedule as provided in examples by Fort Knox/ Amax.

Current schedule (21 8-hour shifts in each 28 day period) under current law - 160 straight time (ST) hours and 8 hours at time-and-a-half (OT) - employee receives \$3,010 in wages for the four week period.

Proposed schedule (14 12-hour shifts in each 28 day period) -

- under current law - 112 ST and 56 OT hours - \$3,430
- under Amax proposal - 152 ST and 16 OT - \$3,080

"Gross pay neutral" wage rate, which if paid under current law for the proposed 12-hour schedule would equal the \$3,080 pay for four weeks under the Amax proposal - \$15.71 per hour.

Cost to Amax (Wages only) of working proposed schedule of current law, as opposed to under their proposed exemption, based on 240 employees under plan - \$1,092,000.

Committee staff should already have received additional information regarding the existing "4-10's" flex plan at Ft. Knox from our Fairbanks office. If I can be of further assistance to the committee, please do not hesitate to contact me or Special Assistant Dwight Perkins.

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
GENE THERRIAULT

Mailing Address
119 N. Cushman, Suite 101
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(907) 488-0857
FAX: (907) 488-4271



While in Session
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99601-1182
(907) 465-4797
Fax: (907) 465-3884

House Of Representatives

House District 33

Sponsor Statement

HB 68

HB 68 proposes to amend the employee voluntary flexible work hour law. Current law allows employees in any industry working under a voluntary flexible work plan to work 10 hours a day and up to 40 hours a week without overtime pay if approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor. My intent is to extend this exemption from 10 hours to 12 hours for employees at surface mines.

I was initially approached by Fort Knox mine representatives with a petition signed by over 95 percent of the employees. The petition urges the Legislature to change the law allowing the employees to establish a voluntary flexible work plan which would include working the same number of hours in 14 days which they currently work in 21. This would give the employees more time at home with their families and cut down on the number of commuting hours, which for many employees generally are 1.5 hours per day.

In addition to reviewing the petition, I also contacted individual employees who work at the mine to make sure there had been no coercion to sign the petition. I was assured that there was no pressure and in fact the employees were enthusiastic about the proposed change. Under the current work schedule, most employees at Fort Knox work 21 days every four weeks and are compensated for 8 hours of overtime pay. The proposed change would allow the employees to work 14 days every four weeks including 16 hours of overtime.

Under collective bargaining, a flexible work plan as desired by Fort Knox employees could be achieved. However, the employees are not unionized and therefore, current law does not permit them to make these types of arrangements. In addition, this legislation will have no impact on the employees right to consider collective bargaining in the future if they choose.

While drafting this bill, I included provisions which I felt would help the mine and its employees reach their goal as well as limit the potential abuses. For example, the bill would only permit a 12 hour exemption if all three of the following criteria were met. First, the employer and the employee would have to voluntarily write out a work plan approved by both parties stating that no more than 40 hours a week may be worked without overtime; second, the plan would have to be filed with the Department of Labor; and finally, the Commission of the Department of Labor would have to issue a certificate of approval for the plan. Keep in mind, this process is set up on a case by case basis and would not impact employees currently receiving overtime pay for hours in excess of 8 per day.

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182

FEB. 7 1997

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ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

I AM WRITING TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN OPPOSITION TO H.B. 68 WHICH PROPOSES TO CHANGE CURRENT LABOR LAWS FROM AN 8 HR. WORK DAY .. 40 HR. WORK WEEK WITH CERTAIN PROVISIONS TO A 12 HR. WORK DAY 40 HR. WORK WEEK. I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT WHAT TRULY IS AT ISSUE HERE IS AN ATTEMPT TO CHANGE A LAW THAT WAS PUT IN PLACE TO PROTECT ALL WORKERS RIGHTS IN ORDER TO SOLVE A SCHEDULING PROBLEM FOR A FEW WORKERS AT FT. KNOX GOLD MINE WHEN OTHER SOLUTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM.

ONE OF THE REASONS BEHIND THE FT. KNOX WORKERS DESIRE TO CHANGE THE OVERTIME LAW IS BECAUSE OF THE WISH TO WORK A SCHEDULE WHICH WOULD ALLOW THEM TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH FAMILY (A 4-3, 3-4 WEEK WITH 12 HR. SHIFTS). IRONICALLY, THEY ARE PROPOSING TO CHANGE THE VERY LAW THAT WAS ENACTED TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM AN EMPLOYERS ABUSE OF EXCESSIVE WORK HOURS EACH DAY AND TO COMPENSATE THE WORKER FROM TIME SPENT AWAY FROM FAMILY AS WELL AS OTHER ACTIVITIES IMPORTANT TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE WHEN THEY DO.

ANOTHER REASON THEY ARE PROPOSING THIS CHANGE IS TO REDUCE COMMUTE TIME (IN NUMBER OF DAYS) TO AND FROM WORK. TRANSPORTATION COSTS AND DRIVE TIME ARE ALWAYS THE CONSEQUENCE OF ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT BY ANY AND ALL WORKERS. THIS IS ENTIRELY A SEPARATE ISSUE WITH AN ENTIRELY SEPARATE SET OF RESOLUTIONS AND SHOULD HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO BEARING ON DECISIONS MADE WITH REGARD TO H.B. 68.

AMAX HAS PROPOSED THAT IF THIS LAW COULD BE CHANGED THAT EACH WORKER AFFECTED BY THEIR PROPOSED SCHEDULE WOULD EARN

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AN ADDED 2.3% INCREASE IN EARNINGS WHICH THEY ARE PREPARED TO PAY IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE SCHEDULING HARDSHIPS. HOWEVER, THE EXACT SAME RESULTS CAN IN FACT BE ACHIEVED BY TAKING AN HOURLY PAY REDUCTION EQUIVALENT TO THE ADDED OVERTIME PAY WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED UNDER EXISTING LABOR LAW IN ORDER TO WORK THE SCHEDULE WHICH THEY PROPOSE TO WORK. AMAX COULD THEN UTILIZE THE 2.3% EARNINGS INCREASE ALREADY PROPOSED FOR EACH WORKER TO LESSEN THE AMOUNT BY WHICH THEIR HOURLY WAGES WOULD BE REDUCED. I SEE ABSOLUTELY NO REASON TO CHANGE A LABOR LAW WHICH WOULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON WORKERS STATEWIDE IN ORDER TO RELIEVE A SCHEDULING PROBLEM FOR A FEW WORKERS WHEN OTHER SOLUTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM.

REGARDING THE DECREASE IN BENEFITS AND PERKS OF THE FT. KNOX WORKERS WHICH THEY SAY WOULD OCCUR IF THEY WERE TO REDUCE THEIR HOURLY WAGE, AGAIN I SAY THIS IS NOT WHAT IS AT ISSUE. THESE BONUSES ARE PROVED EXTRAS. THEY ARE NOT A CONDITION OF OVERTIME PAY. I MIGHT ADD THAT NOT ALL WORKERS HAVE THE BENEFIT OF CHRISTMAS BONUSES, HEALTH INSURANCE, PROFIT SHARING, PENSION FUNDS AND THE LIKE, IT COULD THEREFORE BE ALLEGED THAT THESE SAME WORKERS DEPEND HEAVILY ON HARD EARNED OVERTIME PAY TO PROVIDE FOR THEMSELVES THESE EXTRAS, WHICH, FOR THE FT. KNOX WORKERS ARE PROVIDED AS FURTHER INDUCEMENT TO WORK A SOMEWHAT GRUELING SCHEDULE. FOR THIS REASON, I FEEL THIS ARGUMENT DOES NOT HOLD WATER WHEN HELD UP AS A REASON TO REJECT A WORKABLE SOLUTION.

I AM A THIRTEEN YEAR RESIDENT, A WORKER AND A REGISTERED VOTER IN THE STATE OF ALASKA. WHILE I CAN SYMPATHIZE WITH THE WORKERS OF THE FT. KNOX GOLD MINE, I CAN SEE ABSOLUTELY NO REASON WE SHOULD EVEN CONSIDER CHANGING A STATE LABOR LAW WHICH WAS ENACTED TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL WORKERS IN THIS STATE JUST TO RESOLVE A PROBLEM.

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THAT AFFECTS ONLY A FEW WORKERS (NOT EVEN THE FULL WORK FORCE AT FT. KNOX GOLD MINE). IT HAS BEEN SHOWN THAT THERE ARE OTHER SOLUTIONS AVAILABLE TO THOSE WORKERS WHICH WOULD ADDRESS AND RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS WITH SCHEDULING THEY HAVE PRESENTED.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO WILL ARGUE THAT H.B. 68 WOULD HAVE NO BEARING ON WORKERS OUTSIDE THE SURFACE METAL MINING INDUSTRY. THIS IS JUST NOT TRUE. IF YOU FAVOR ONE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY WITH EXEMPTIONS IN LABOR LAWS, IT SETS PRECEDENT AND OPENS THE DOOR FOR ALL OTHER INDUSTRIES TO EXPECT THE SAME. THE CONSEQUENTIAL EFFECTS WOULD BE THE EROSION OF ALL WORKERS RIGHTS AND AN ASSAULT ON WAGE AND HOUR GUIDELINES WHICH HAVE BEEN HARD FOUGHT FOR, AND WON, AS PROTECTION FOR THE WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ALASKA.

ONCE AGAIN, I AM ADAMANTLY AND VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED TO H.B. 68 AND I WOULD ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN OPPOSITION TO H.B. 68 AS WELL. I BELIEVE ORAL AND WRITTEN TESTIMONIES DURING THE HEARINGS ON H.B. 68 ON THE 27th AND 29th OF JANUARY, 1997, WILL BEAR OUT THE WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION OF THIS BILL BY YOUR CONSTITUENTS. AS WELL

SINCERELY,
Carol E. Desnoyers
CAROL E. DESNOYERS
P.O. Box 33
HEALY, ALASKA 99743

Nov 1, 1997

I am enthusiastically opposed
to the B. 68 on the grounds
that it will further erode
workers' rights & their
standard of living.

If Fort Knox or any
other business cannot find
it in their finances to provide
their employees with over-time
pay, then they should look
within their own coffers
to cut expenses.

The sad truth is that
this is just a matter of
corporate greed.

Alaskan workers do not
deserve to be treated as
fundamentalist subjects.

This bill must not pass
and any politician who endorses
it will never get my vote.

Garrett Bismack
Unemployed Miner Parker
P.O. Box 225
Healy, Ak, 99743