

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997-1998 8672

9286 HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE

International Union of Operating Engineers

BRANCHES A, B, C, D, RA & O

LOCAL 302

AFL-CIO



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The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302 is against the passing of House Bill No. 68 which has been introduced in the Legislature of the State of Alaska. This Act deals with the exemption from the requirement for payment for overtime & increasing the work day to 12 hours in a 40 hour week, under a voluntary work hour plan.

Please read the attached information and sign below to support the opposition of House Bill No. 68.

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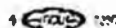
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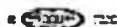
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International Union of Operating Engineers

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CHARLES A. GABEL P.O. BOX 936 VALDEZ, AK. 99686

RICHARD Bopp
2307 E 72 ND AV ANCH AK 99507

HB

68

File 6

**Letters of Support
Distributed to Labor and Commerce Committee**

Becky Van Pelt
1900 Pandora Dr.
Fairbanks, AK
99709

JAN 23 1997

Representative Rokeberg,

I am writing to ask you to support House Bill 68 which will soon be introduced in the legislature.

I am a Mill Operator at the Fort Knox Gold Mine and am in full support of changing our work schedule to a 12 hour shift. I have previously worked our current 8 hour shift and a 12 hour shift schedule and I found working the 12 hour schedule improved my attitude, my morale, and my enjoyment of my work and outside interests. The extra 7 days off a month allow me to pursue other hobbies and community events.

I have a long commute to the mine and working less days will save on gas money.

My co-workers and I are eagerly looking forward to and hoping we can change soon to a 12 hour work schedule.

Please support House Bill 68.

Sincerely,
Becky Van Pelt

Randy Watson
P.O. Box 84656
Fairbanks AK. 99708

JAN 23 1997

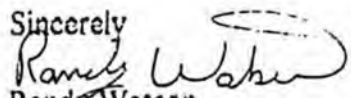
To Whom It May Concern.

This letter is being written in regards to the support of House Bill 68. My name is Randy Watson and I'm presently employed by Fort Knox as a Grader Operator-Truck Driver and have been with the company for the past 8 months. I'm married and have two daughters ages 8yr and 15yr. My 15yr old is currently leaving in the Seattle area. As with the majority of the Alaskan population the rest of my immediate family lives outside the state.

I feel the change in our hours which is being proposed in House Bill 68 is a win win situation for both company and employees, however the benefits for us as employees is far greater and will have a strong impact on how this mine operates. At this time the current mining operation schedule has been in effect for 1 1/2 years. In the 8 months that I have been employed I have seen a high decrease in employee moral. I feel this is mainly due to the fact that on our current schedule it is impossible to maintain any type of family lifestyle. It is also almost impossible to form any type of normal sleeping pattern. All this leads to a decrease in moral which in turn effects work production, safety and employee relationships with each other. All of the above are very important to maintain a high quality of work ethics for a company such as this to operate effectively. When our lives are not in order on a personal level it effects all other commitments and responsibilities we have.

I'm recommending to you that for my self and fellow employees that House Bill 68 be passed for the good of everyone involved.

Sincerely


Randy Watson

907-456-6166

JAN 23 1997

Gary S. Allen
1090 Coppet St
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4719

Representative Norman Rokeberg

Dear Representative,

I'm writing this in request for your support for House Bill 68. I'm a haul truck driver at the Fort Knox Gold Mine. If this bill were passed it would serve my family and myself in several ways. It would reduce my driving time and cost to and from work and it would also give me more time to spend with my family. We have two sons at home and with this new schedule we would get more time to spend with them during the warmer time of year when they are out of school, not to mention I would also receive more money at the end of the pay period. This is just one more thing that the Fort Knox Mine is trying to do to take care of its employees and family. Again, my family and I would very much appreciate your support. Please feel free to call anytime, collect.

Home phone: (907)-479-7854

Gary Allen-Haul Truck Operator

Gary Allen 1/20/97

Chom Allen-Wife

Chom C Allen 1/20/97

JAN 24 1997

Ken Karpukon
4780 Princeton Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907-479-3194

January 20th 1997

DEAR Representative Rostenberg,

I am employed as a Shovel operator for Fort Knox Mine in Fairbanks. I am writing this in regard to my opinion of the House Bill 68. (12 hour shifts)

I am married with two small children and have very little time to spend with them. My constant seven day rotating schedule effects my familys schedule as well. I have been mining for over ten years and never worked this present shift before.

This Bill would Allow us to have 14 days off out of 28, Compared to now working 21 days out of 28.

More days off and an increase in wages with some overtime, makes me 100% behind the Bill and Benefits everyone. My wife would greatly appreciate this.

If you would like to contact me in person please feel free to call the phone number listed above.

Sincerely,
Ken Karpukon

Ken Karpukon

Daniel S. Gilbert
P.O. Box 58553
Fairbanks , Alaska 99711
Home Phone 907-488-1779

JAN 24 1997

January 19, 1997

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Dan Gilbert, I have worked for Fort Knox Mine since Sept. of 95. I hold the position of blaster and I have a wife and three children. I am writing to you so I may urge you to support House Bill 68. I would benefit greatly from the change in this work schedule. As a result of this change I would have more time off to spend with my family and an increase in pay. I as well as my family are looking forward to this change and we hope that you will help make it happen.

Sincerely,

Dan Gilbert

JAN 24 1997

January 22, 1997

To Representative Norman Rokeberg:

I am writing this letter requesting that you support House Bill 68.

I have been employed at Fort Knox Mine since August 1995. I am a shovel operator and the lead man on my crew. If you are not aware of the current schedule, let me explain... We work seven consecutive Swing shifts (3 p.m. to 11 p.m.). Then we have one day off. We work seven consecutive Graveyard shifts (11 p.m. to 7 a.m.). Then we have two days off. We work seven consecutive Day shifts (7 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Then we have 4 days off and the cycle repeats itself. As you can see, that gives us 21 days of work out of every 28 days. With the passing of House Bill 68, this would allow us seven more days off every 28 days. At the same time, it would increase our income by 2.3%.

Now, I have heard that there are some people that find it hard to believe that employees at Fort Knox support House Bill 68 and voluntarily signed a petition stating such. I would like to set the record straight. When the petition that we signed in support of House Bill 68 was passed around, we were told and a letter attached to the petition itself clearly stated, and I quote, "If you support the change, please contact your supervisor so that you may endorse the petition. If, however, you do not want the change, you are under no obligation to endorse the petition". I would like to also state clearly that - I voluntarily support the passing of House Bill 68.

My wife also works at Fort Knox. The passing of House Bill 68 will not effect her work schedule, but it will make a major improvement in our lives outside of work. Currently my wife and I only have one weekend every 28 days to spend together. Now, I am not sure how you care to spend your time away from work, but my wife is my best friend and I want to spend as much time as I can with her. With our present schedule, mentioned above, our time together is limited. Look at where we live... ALASKA. Both my wife and I love the outdoors. We live in one of the most wonderful places on earth. Why wouldn't either of us want to have more time off together to enjoy what God created for us, the land, the wildlife and the companionship with each other. The passing of House Bill 68 will allow us to do just that, spend more time together.

I thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I ask that you support House Bill 68, and help make a positive difference in my family's time together. Your support will be greatly appreciated and remembered.

Sincerely,



M. Steven Steel
221 Dunbar Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701

American by Birth. Alaskan by Choice. Tax payer. Voter.

DEER; NORMAN ROKEBERG

I am an employee at the Fort Knox mine
and I would like your support for House Bill 68.
This would allow us to work 12 hr shifts
and give us more time off to spend with our
family.

Thank you

Charles Wain

3572 Maudesville loop

North Pole, AK 99705

907-488-6199

JAN 24 1997

10: Norman Kokeberg

I'm a Mill Operator at Fort Knox Mine here in Fair Banks Alaska. I would like to think that I'm a family man. Being married for 12 years and having two children, a daughter 4 year old, and a son 11. On behalf of my family and myself, I am writing to you to let you know we really would like to have the 12-hour shift. My family I request that you support House Bill 68.

yours truly
Mark Kokeberg

Family

1-20-97

907-488-0595

no return
address

JAN 24 1997

JAN 24 1997

To: Rep. Norman Rokeberg,

My name is Cary Bellows, I work at the Fort Knox mine in Fairbanks. We recently asked the company to consider going to 12 hr shifts. As a result a petition was passed around for all employees to sign if they wanted the 12 hr schedule. I signed this petition and strongly desired the schedule. The reason being that on our current rotations I have little or no time with my family or other obligations. I would very much appreciate the legislature to ok the passing of house bill # 68. I know my family and co-workers feel the same.

Sincerely,
Cary Bellows

no return
address on
envelopes

JAN 23 1997

Jan 17 1996

Dear Representative Rostenberg, Rm 24

I am employed at the Fort Knox Gold Mine, in the Security Department. I am writing in reference to House Bill 68.

I feel that this is a good Bill that would be advantageous to both myself, my fellow workers and the mine production.

Switching to 12 hour shifts would not only give the employees twice as much time off, one half the driving time, especially on slippery roads, and a pay increase, but it would also help keep the mine from having to slow the production process a third time each day for the extra shift change.

I am a 29 year Alaskan resident who finally found a good job, where the Company not only cares about local hire, but also about the employees and their needs.

Please help us out, and support House Bill 68, it would be greatly appreciated by all of us here at the Fort Knox Gold Mine.

Michael Timm

4353 9th St "7"

FE WAINWRIGHT, AK. 99703
(907) 356-2892

Thank you for your
time and support.

Michael Timm

JAN 23 1997

January 18, 1997

REPRESENTATIVE NORMAN ROKEBERG
Room 24, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

IN REGARDS TO: House Bill 68
AMAX GOLD, INC. / FORT KNOX MINE

Dear Mr. Rokeberg:

In regards to the proposed schedule change for Fort Knox Mine, I am in complete support. I am a heavy equipment operator currently working the present schedule. The proposed schedule change would be beneficial to me as our current schedule allows me very little leisure time with my family and it is extremely hard to adapt to the constant changing shifts from week to week. Physically, the current work schedule is very demanding, due to the difficulty of lack of rest and sleeping ability. Personally, it takes me two to three days to adapt to the current schedule changes. I feel it is a safety problem, especially for the equipment operators. My job consists of operating very large equipment in sometimes very close quarters to other equipment and personnel. Everyone needs to be alert under these conditions.

I would appreciate your support in favor of this proposed change.

Sincerely,

Steve A. Bonham

Steve A. Bonham
36 College Road, Ste. 2-251
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

JAN 23 1997

TO: Rep. Norman Rokberg.

I am a maintenance and Geo Technician for Fairbanks Gold Mining. Married have three children. It would be nice if they could see more of me.

The new shift of (12) twelve hours would give me more time to spend with my family and friends. I also believe traffic would be safer in the area.

I urge you to support legislation of "House Bill 68". Thank You for your time

Yours Truly
Carl Walter

JAN 23 1997

Vaughn Frei
P.O. Box 81450
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

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


Representative Rokeberg:

I'm writing to ask for your support of House Bill 68, which allows for the voluntary right to work a 12 hour day with overtime pay only for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week.

I'm employed by Fort Knox as a mine surveyor and currently work the best shift on the property. However, if the Bill 68 is not passed I could end up working an unfavorable schedule that would limit the amount of time spent with my family. As a surveyor I interact with many of the employees affected by the current schedule and their morale is low. They don't get to spend time with their families, and have a hard time adjusting to the shift changes. A content employee helps create a safer work environment for all.

I urge you to support House Bill 68 for the good of all employees.

Sincerely,



Vaughn Frei

JAN 23 1997

Jan. 19, 1997

Beryl Palmer
Blade Operator
4500 Dale Rd. #J
Fairbanks, AK. 99709

To Whom it May Concern:

My title is blade hand. I also operate haul truck, dozer, rubber tired dozer, and load trucks with 5232 front shovel.

I'm married and have 3 sons; two in college and one in 4th grade. We have a homestead near Healy, AK.

There would be several benefits to me by having more days off.

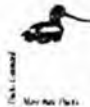
- 1. Fewer miles back and forth. I am driving 60 miles round trip. Using .30/mi. I would save around \$1500/yr. in gas, wear and tear.

- 2. The extra days would give me more time to work on the homestead and enjoy Alaska.

I would like to see housebill to pass for the above reasons.

Sincerely,
Beryl Palmer

Copies sent to the legislative senators and representatives of Alaska; and
Mr. Tom Cashen, Commissioner of Labor



Brent Martellaro
733 Darrell Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709

JAN 23 1997

Representative Norman Rokeberg
Room 24
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

DATE: Jan.20,1997

Rep. Rokeberg,

I am writing to urge your support for House Bill 68, which would allow employees at our company to work up to 12 hours per shift.

I am a mine geologist at the Fort Knox Mine. Passage of this bill would allow me to spend more time with my family. Personal cost savings would also be realized in less daycare expenses (one day per week), as well as transportation (in my case about 100 miles less per week).

I do not believe safety would be compromised at the job site with longer hours, and since the commute is the biggest hazard I face, 100 miles less driving per week is an improvement.

Please support House Bill 68.

Sincerely,

Brent Martellaro

JAN 23 1997

1-19-97

Dean E. Clark

P.O. Box 85074

Fairbanks, Alaska

99708

To Representative Norman Rokeberg

This letter is to show that I stand for all this petition is. This schedule we have now leaves me with no personal time.

I myself am single. I run a doper at Fort Knox. I work one 8 hour shift for a week and one day off, then change to another 8 hours for a week with 2 days off and another weeks work, then 4 days off. One has no time to get accustomed to one shift.

I agree to the 12 hour shift with no over-time after 8 hours, only after 12 hours or over 40 hours. This House Bill 68 is what I want.

I am a registered voter in Alaska, a vote for this will be remembered.

This Bill 68 will make a good job better.

Thank You!
Dean E. Clark

JAN 23 1997

Dear Sirs:

In regards to proposed House Bill 68.

I, David Schwegel and family, are 100% in favor of its Approval. I am married with one child. I am a heavy equipment operator for Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc, at Fort Knox Mine, Fairbanks.

As to our current working days, which are as follows are strenuous to our health. (Seven swing shifts, one day off, Seven night shifts, two days off. And seven day shifts, four days off, over and over.)

I miss my family coming and going, and the extra wear and tear on transportation daily adds up in a hurry. With 99% of our work force driving 25 miles or more (one way) every day.

In behalf of the rest of the employees and my self. We really appreciate the concern our company has for us.

And would really appreciate your concern of our future.

This job is my life. Lets get out of the Bank Ages.

Its time for a change, For a better life style, House Bill 68.

Thank You Very Much,

David Schwegel

David Schwegel
2030 Yellow Snow Rd
FBKS, AK 99709



JAN 23 1997

Jan 20, 1997

Dear Sirs,
This letter is in regards of proposed House Bill 68.

I (Tenny Schwengel) & family support this House Bill 100%. My husband & I both work for Annapolis Fort Knox. I drive one of the nine dirt trucks.

If we could have this change in how

we would and could be more of a family.

As it is now my husband & I pass in the

night or day. See each when we are off.

With the shift we are on now. Are days off

are not together, ~~has~~ is on one crew + I on an

other. So please help by supporting the House

Bill 68.

Please, please support this Bill

for all the employees and my family (Dove, Tenny & Kylene)

Thank you
Tenny Schwengel

Tenny Schwengel
2030 Yellow Springs Rd.
Fbks, AR 99709

JAN 24 1997

Howard L. Alloway
3275 A Street Hwy
FBKS AK 99712
907-389-5597

Representative Norman Rokberg

18-Jan-97

I am writing this letter to let you know how I feel about House Bill 68. I am an employee at the Ft. Knox mine, I operate heavy equipment.

I am for the 12hour shift schedule. I have experienced the 12 hour shift schedule and found that I enjoyed it's benefits, 14 days worked - 14 days off.

This schedule would allow a person to have the time off to enjoy Alaska! I'm for that!

Thank you

Howard L. Alloway



JAN 24 1997

January 21, 1997

To Representative Norman Rokeberg:

I am writing this letter to request that you support House Bill 68.

I am a non-exempt Human Resource Technician employed at the Fort Knox Mine. My request for your support of the House Bill 68 is two fold.

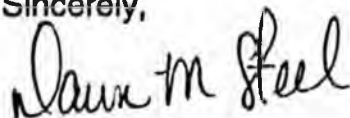
First, my position at the mine brings fellow employees to my office with many questions regarding a wide variety of topics. Every day, sometimes several times a day, concerns regarding the present 8 hour rotating shift schedule, and the wish for the 12 hour rotating shift schedule, are discussed. The passing of House Bill 68 would provide employees with a gross income increase of 2.3%. The passing of House Bill 68 would reduce the number of times a week they would need to drive the 25 miles to and from work. In the winter with these cold temperatures and slick road condition this would be great, plus this would save on gas, wear and tare on vehicles and roads. Above all else, the passing of House Bill 68 would provide the employees with 14 days off, instead of the current 7 days off, every 28 days in which they could spend it with their families. I have heard the feelings of my co-workers and although my work schedule is not the current 8 hour rotating shift schedule, nor will I be one to work the 12 hour rotating shift schedule once this bill is passed, I want to do what I can in expressing my support of House Bill 68, to help those that I work with and their families. But that is not all.....

Second, this hits alot closer to home than just what I hear at the office. I support House Bill 68 as a spouse of an employee who does have to work the present 8 hour rotating shift schedule. Being a part of a family in 1997, a home owner, a college graduate and saving to start a family, both my husband and I work. Although the additional 2.3% gross increase will be appreciated, the most important issue for my family is time together. My schedule keeps me at the office Monday through Friday, a good eight hours every day, plus an hour and a half travel time. My husband, Steve, a shovel operator here at the Fort Knox Mine, works the present 8 hour rotating shift schedule. Our time together is limited, for example, we spend one weekend every 28 days together. Although, as I mentioned, the passing of House Bill 68 would not change my work schedule, it would allow Steve more time to be at home when I am off. Also, Steve was a drummer in our Sunday morning Praise and Worship Team at church. The passing of House Bill 68 would allow time to return to the team. Both Steve and I were 5th and 6th grade Youth Leaders. The passing of House Bill 68 would allow us the time to return to the position together, as a team.

Alaska is a wonderful place to live. And Fort Knox is a great place to work. I respectfully request that you support this legislation - House Bill 68.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Dawn Michelle Steel
American, Tax Payer, Voter.

Dawn Michelle Steel
221 Dunbar Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701

JAN 24 1997

To: Representative Norman Rokeberg
Room 24 State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

From: Edward A. Evans
P. O. Box 16037
Two Rivers AK, 99716

Subject: House Bill 68

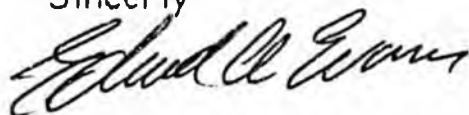
As a equipment operator at the Fort Knox Mine near Fairbanks, Alaska I support House Bill 68. I live 45 miles from Fort Knox and spend at least 2 hours each day on the 90 mile round trip. The shifts that we now work rotate every seven days. It is very hard to adjust having to change your sleeping schedule that often. It is also hard to plan any activities with your family.

If House bill 68 is passed we would get 14 days off every four weeks. We would also see a 2.3% pay increase. It would mean that people would not have to drive as many miles and that would save wear and tear on their vehicles. All of the employees that I am acquainted with would like to go to 12 hr. work days. This would allow us to have more time to spend with our families. It would also mean that we work less days.

I understand that there is some concern that we are being pressured by management to go along with this change. That is not the case. Employees have been trying to get the management to change the schedule we work for quite a while. I don't know of any reason the management would have to want the schedule changed, seeing that it will end up costing them more money in wages.

I hope that you will support House Bill 68.

Sincerely



**Letters of Support
Distributed to Labor and Commerce Committee**

Jan. 20, 1997

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

FROM OFFICE OF PHIL RALOWAN

CONCERNING HOUSE BILL 68

(12 hour shift for mining industry)

JAN 27 1997

I work at the Fort Knox Gold Mine and my wife, an Engineer student, will be working there also in the future. We would both appreciate your focus on this new law for very obvious reasons.

We would have more time off to spend with our children and outdoor activities. We would drive our personal vehicles less and of course that would reduce pollution in Fairbanks.

Also I have been working in mills for almost ten years and 12 hour shifts are safe and productive.

Thanks for your time,

Phil Rowan

No address

Alex Kavelis
P.O. Box 83083
Fairbanks AK
99708

JAN 27 1997

Rep. Norm Rokoberg
Rm. 24, State Capt.
Juneau, AK
99801-1182

Dear Sir:

I am a employee of the
Fort Knox mine near Fairbanks.
I am single and my job is
Crusher operator and this letter
concerns (House Bill 68) the 12
hour work day that is soon to be
in legislation. I am very much
for the 12 hour schedule, it has
many benefits, more money, less
travel time and cost, more time off,
to name a few, but the main
point I wish to make is that the
7 day 8 hours week, presently in use
ruins any chance of having a normal
life outside of work. What time off
that I do get is spent catching up on
projects and resting up for the next 7
days of work. I have seen many fellow
employees quit and the only reason was the
work schedule. I beg of you, for a speedy
passing of HB 68. Yours Truly
Alex Kavelis

Feb. 21, 1997

JAN 27 1997

Dear Mr. Rokkenberg,

I would like to ask you to support house bill 68. I am a daughter of one of the miners at Fort Knox, and I've noticed a lot of changes in our family.

First of all, my dad is always tired and can never do anything like going to Moose Mountain or fishing or whatever! And when he's tired, he can get cranky which makes my mom cranky which makes me annoyed and not very happy. Part of the reason he's tired is the frequent shift changes. I mean they only get one day to adjust their bodies to their new shift. That can be very difficult to do when you get older.

Second of all, (and this really annoys me), I barley ever get to see my dad! One time, I didn't see my dad for almost 4 days! Most of the time, I only get to see him if I stayed up really late or I wake up really early. I have been really practicing my jumps when I snowboard over the weekend and I really want to show him, but he's either too tired to go with, at work or he can only go in the middle of the week and I have to be at school! I'd really like it if you would support house bill 68. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Dale

68x60173
FBI's AK, 02706

FEB 21, 1997

DEAR MR. ROKEBERG,

I'M WRITING TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT
ON HOUSE BILL 68.

I AM CURRENTLY EMPLOYED FOR FORT KNOX
AS A SENIOR MILL OPERATOR.

CURRENTLY WE DO SHIFT WORK, AND I HAVE
TO SAY IT IS HARD TO ADJUST TO EVER CHANGING
HOURS. IT HAS ALSO CHANGED THE QUALITY AND
QUANTITY OF FAMILY TIME THAT MOST OF US
TREASURE.

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 68 NOT JUST
FOR MYSELF, BUT FOR MY FAMILY.

SINCERLY

ROCK DALE
BOX 60173
FIBRS AK, 99706

JAN 27 1997

Feb 21, 1997

Dear Mr. Rokelberg,

I'm writing to ask for your support of House bill 68. As the wife of an employee of Fort Knox, I can't express enough what a toll shift work has on the employee and his family.

For the employees, well, their bodies can't adjust because of constant change, and the families, well, quality time is diminished.

I believe that House bill 68 will enhance the employee, thus meaning more productivity for their employer, and I believe that it will certainly enhance all of the families of Fort Knox employees by giving them some balance. Please support House bill 68 and help preserve our families.

Sincerely,

Susan Dale

Box 60173

FtRS, ALASKA, 99706

907-488-0404

JAN 27 1997

JANUARY 23, 1997

JAN 27 1997

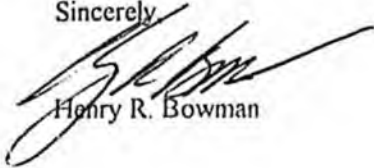
DEAR REPRESENTATIVE

Rohrbach

I HENRY R. BOWMAN, wanted to write to you in regard to Bill 68 that will be presented next week. The 12 hour shift would benefit my family as well as myself with more time to spend with them. My spouse and I have two small children (ages 3 and 4), due to our busy work schedules we spend very little time with them. My spouse is in the U. S. Army, and that alone takes up over half of her time, with the work schedule that we are now working here at the mine it is difficult for us to spend quality time together.

We could save money on gas, as well as the additional cost for meals that are needed while I am working during the week. My family and I continue to remain hopeful that this Bill will meet your approval for Fort Knox mine. Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely

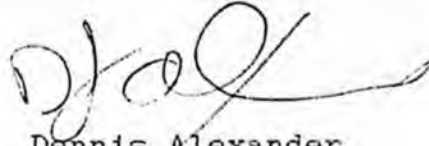

Henry R. Bowman

*H. Bowman
437 Leona Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99701*

JAN 27 1997

Rep. Rokeberg

I am writing in full support of Bill 68, 12 hour shifts. I believe this change would give me more time with my family. I would also spend less time on the long drive to the mine. I am a Control Room Operator at the Fort Knox mine. I am a 23 year resident of Fairbanks. I have not been pressured in any way to write this letter or sign the petition and I can't believe somebody would actually think AMAX Gold would do that.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DJA', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dennis Alexander

Dennis Alexander
PO Box 35496
Ft Wainwright, Ak 99703

James H. Spear
2642 Silver Street
North Pole, Alaska 99705

JAN 27 1997

January 21, 1997

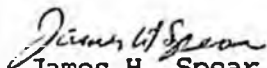
Representative Norman Rokeberg
Room 24, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Mr. Rokeberg

I am writing you in regards of asking you to support House Bill 68. I am currently employed by Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc. as a Mill Trainee. I have a wife and four children and am currently in the Alaska National Guard. If this bill is passed it would greatly benefit us as a family. I would only be working 14 out of 28 days instead of 21 out of 28 days. This would mean that I could spend more time with my family. This would also relieve some of the burden of hiring a child care provider since my wife works part time. This would also save 560 miles a month in driving since I drive 40 miles one way to the mine.

I hope you will support this bill so it can be passed into law. Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,


James H. Spear

JAN 27 1997

To: Representative Norman Rostenberg

1-20-97

My name is Allen Smith. I am a mine shift supervisor for Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc.

In the ten years I've been mining, I have worked a lot of different shift schedules. At present I am working 21 out of 28 days per month. The current schedule consists of 3 rotations of 7 consecutive days without time off, which makes it difficult to make the adjustments between the shift changes.

With your support of House Bill 68, this schedule can be changed to 14 out of 28 days, with no more than 4 consecutive days worked without time off. This would enable a person to make adjustments between shift changes. Time and money would be saved by reducing mileage by 415 miles per month. In addition, I will receive an extra 91 days per year, to spend with my wife and family.

Working for Fort Knox is a permanent, year round job that will improve Alaska's economy for years to come.

Please help improve the quality of our lives by supporting House Bill 68.

A Smith
2136 Alston Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sincerely,

Allen Smith
Beth E Smith

Mr. Michael
1613 Madison Dr

E Shafer

479-9172

Fairbanks AK 99709

Affiliation Reg Voter
Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/24/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

PRESENTLY WORK AT FORT KNOX ON A ROTATING SHIFT SCHEDULE. THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE USING A TWELVE HOUR DAY WILL GIVE ME AN ADDITIONAL DAY OF OVERTIME AND MORE TIME OFF TO SPEND WITH MY FAMILY. THERE WILL NOT BE ANYONE

LAID OFF AS A RESULT.

Mr. Michael

Steel

488-4653

221 Dunbar St

Fairbanks

AK 99701

Affiliation

Reg Voter

Y

Date POM Sent

Constituency

Bill Number

Response

Subject

01/24/97

N

HB 68

Supports

I VOLUNTARILY ASK THAT YOU SUPPORT HB 68. WITH THE PASSING OF HB 68, MYSELF AS WELL AS CO-WORKERS WOULD BE GIVEN SEVEN ADDITIONAL DAYS TO SPEND AT HOME WITH THEIR FAMILIES. IT WOULD ALSO INCREASE OUR INCOME BY 2.3 PERCENT.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB 68! I GRATEFULLY THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND SUPPORT.

Mrs. Dawn
221 Dunbar St

M. Steel

488-4653

Affiliation Reg Voter
 Y

Fairbanks AK 99701

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/24/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY VOLUNTARY SUPPORT OF HB 68. THE PASSING OF HB 68 WOULD ALLOW MY HUSBAND AND OTHER FORT KNOX EMPLOYEES MORE TIME OFF TO SPEND AT HOME PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS INCREASING INCOME BY

2.3 PERCENT. PLEASE SUPPORT HB 68. I THANK YOU!

**Letters of Support
Distributed to Labor and Commerce Committee**

FEB 05 1997



February 5, 1997

The Honorable Representative Norm Rokeberg
Chairman, House Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol, Room 24
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

I am writing to you today to urge your support for H. B. 68. As a contractor for over 20 years in Alaska, I recognize the importance of work hour flexibility. The work hour flexibility rules are often viewed as bringing big benefits to the employer, whereas, in reality, the biggest push for flexible hours here at our company comes from the employees. This often allows them various opportunities, whether its spending more time with their families, spending more time enhancing their education, working as a volunteer, or taking that much needed fishing trip that requires more than a two day weekend to accomplish.

Great Northwest Inc., is a union contractor, who would like to see this type of flexibility extended to our industry.

With all due respect, I ask that you support the passage of this bill out of your committee, so it may be fully debated on the floor of the house.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Howard 'Buzz' Otis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Howard "Buzz" Otis, President
Great Northwest, Inc.

FEB 04 1997

Dear To Whom It concern:

Subject : House Bill 68

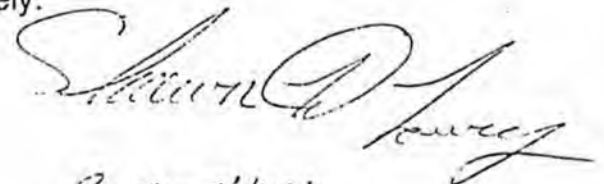
Recently House Bill 68 has been placed before you for a vote concerning a 12 hour work shift at the Fairbanks Gold Mining (Cypress-Amax) Fort Knox mine. My name is Shawn Lowry, I am a 24 year old shovel operator at the mine. I have been here since 9/06/95, I worked the three previous mining seasons in Livengood for Alaska Placer Development on 12 hour shifts. This company has offered me great opportunities for growth in my career, and now is trying to offer me and the other employees, a better work schedule that I feel will leave me with a better rested body and greater piece of mind.

One thing I found working 12 hour shifts verses the rotating 8 I work now, is that now my body never has a chance to get into a routine schedule. You work a week on then change, work a week then change, and so on. With the Law the way it is this will never change. But if the proposed new bill passes the company then has a chance to offer me and the other employees a work schedule with more day's off to spend with their families, go fishing, or to do just about any thing that they please. Many people might say that a 12 hour work day is unfair to the employees, and that we will make less money. I highly disagree, as long as the company is willing to pay 40 hours plus as overtime in a work week then 12 hours a day is very reasonable. The proposed Bill also accounts for 2.3% pay increase. More money, more day's off, how can this be a bad deal?

I strongly feel that most of the people who will oppose this bill are doing so for personal, unrelated, selfish reasons. After all none of them are working here, and I can almost guarantee that all of them work a regular "NORMAL" shift with regular non-rotating time off. In short, an unchanging work schedule that they can plan around to spend quality time with their family, friends and loved ones. This voice that they carry is not the voice of the people who will be affected by the passing or failure of this bill. Me personally, rite now I am single. But would like to change that in the future, this is not an easy thing to do when you meet someone, only to find that you are unable to really get to know them because you have to change you're work schedule every week.

The proposed schedule would allow the possibility to rotate on a monthly period verses weekly. This option would offer more time off and a greater period of change that is less stressful on the human body, and sleep schedule. I believe that House Bill 68 is a good thing, that would better benefit the Fairbanks Gold Mining employees. So I ask that you listen to the voice of those that this Bill will affect and not the one of those that it wont. Please pass the Bill and help us all out.

Sincerely:



Employee #42101

no return address

FEB 04 1997

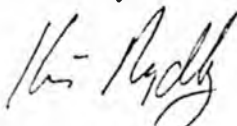
January 23, 1997

Representative Norman Rokeberg:

I am writing to support House Bill 68. As a haul truck driver at the Fort Knox Mine, I am very much in support of a change to 12 hour shifts for a couple of reasons. First, the new schedule would allow me to spend more time with my wife. At this point, our schedules allow us only two to three days each month to spend together. Another reason would be financial. Not only would my traveling expense to and from work be one-third less per month, I would also be looking at a pay increase.

Thank you for your support of House Bill 68.

Sincerely,



Kevin Rydberg
3550 Geraghty #2
Fairbanks, AK 99709

FEB 04 1997

Jan. 21, 1997.
Dear Representative Rokeberg,

I am writing this letter to show my support for House Bill 68. I am an employee with Fort Knox, and am currently working in the lab. This twelve hour shift will not affect me directly, but may be a consideration for us later on. I am in favor of the 12 hour shifts for all of the mine for many reasons: 1- more time off for friends, family, errands, etc.; 2- there will be a pay increase, small but positive; 3- better work schedule in general (those in the mine and mill are desperate for change). This is a very big issue at Fort Knox, and we all hope that you will join us and give us your support for the approval of 12 hour shifts on House Bill 68.

Thank you,

Kelly A Riley

no return on 1/21/97

Monday, January 20, 1997

FEB 04 1997

Dear representative,

I am a dump truck driver for the Fort Knox gold mine near Fairbanks. I am married and have one child who is 14 months old. I am writing you in reference to the 12 hour shift change (house bill 68) which is being brought before the house the week of January 27.

As an employee of the mine I support the bill. As I see it, I will have more time with my family in terms of full days off. Also appealing to me is the fact that I will spend less time traveling to and from work.

These things are important to me and my family and I urge you to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Brian S. DeWitt

Brian S. DeWitt

no return address

FEB 0 4 1997

RANDY M. ROGERS
4430 Moose Creek Ave
North Pole, Alaska 99705

I am writing this letter to express my opinion about Bill 68 or the issue of 12 hour shifts. I am in favor of it for the following reasons;

1. I would like to have more time off and this would double our time off.

2. It would cut down on wear and tear on my car not to mention the amount of driving time, gas and the everyday hazards of driving from moose creek to the mine.

3. My wife and I both work and it is a real rare occasion that we are both off at the same time. Believe me, we as a family take full advantage of the Alaska great outdoors is that we all fish hunt, camp and in general spend time doing other things rather than watch TV or sleeping. The schedule that we work now, I see where we might get to do these things once a month during the summer and only if we are lucky enough to be off at the same time.

4. The new 12 hour shifts would supposedly raise our pay by 2.6 %, which would be nice, but not as important as being able to spend more time with my family.

I work as a senior operator in the carbon strip area of the mill. When we worked start-up of the mill we worked 2 weeks straight on 12 hour shifts so we know what 12 hours is like. The family of Anap is once again just trying to take care of its employees. Thank You
Randy

Mr. Grant
3030 Treaty St

S Anderson

488-4653

Affiliation Reg Voter
 Y

North Pole AK 99705

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

AS A WORKER AT THE MINE AND A RESIDENT OF NORTH POLE, IT'S A 42 MILE ONE WAY TRIP TO WORK. TWELVE HOUR SHIFTS WOULD GREATLY REDUCE MILES DRIVEN AND THE SHIFT SCHEDULE WOULD GIVE ME MORE TIME WITH MY FAMILY. I DON'T BELIEVE

SAFETY WILL BE JEOPARDIZED.

Mr. Victor D Brown
489 Droz Dr

490-2204

	Affiliation	Reg Voter		
Fairbanks AK 99701		Y		
Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS BILL IS REQUESTED. IT WILL ALLOW FOR LESS WORK DAYS WITH NO LOSS IN PAY. THIS WILL PROVIDE FOR MORE TIME WITH OUR FAMILIES.

Mr. Benjamin M Gorman

488-0442

PO Box 55066

North Pole AK 99705

Affiliation Reg Voter
Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

I WORK AT FORT KNOX MINE AND I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE NOTION OF TWELVE HOUR WORK DAYS AT MY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT. PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS REQUEST LIGHTLY, I KNOW THAT THE MAJORITY OF FORT KNOX EMPLOYEES FEEL THE SAME AS I DO.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Ms. Constance
542 Farmers Loop Rd

Huber

457-5352

Fairbanks AK 99712

Affiliation Reg Votor
Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/23/97	N		None	TOBACCO

(HB 1, AND HB 52) I BELIEVE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO NEVER START SMOKING. I SUPPORT A TOBACCO TAX AND I BELIEVE THE MONEY FROM A TOBACCO TAX SHOULD BE USED FOR SCHOOLS TO HELP EDUCATE AND PREVENT TOBACCO

USE. THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN SMOKING FOR YEARS NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN HEALTH CHOICES. THERE ARE MANY PROGRAMS AVAILABLE THAT CAN HELP THEM TO QUIT SMOKING.

Mr. Michael
1613 Madison Dr

E Shafer

479-9172

Fairbanks AK 99709

Affiliation Reg Voter
Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/24/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

PRESENTLY WORK AT FORT KNOX ON A ROTATING SHIFT SCHEDULE. THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE USING A TWELVE HOUR DAY WILL GIVE ME AN ADDITIONAL DAY OF OVERTIME AND MORE TIME OFF TO SPEND WITH MY FAMILY. THERE WILL NOT BE ANYONE

LAI D OFF AS A RESULT.

Mrs. Dawn

M. Steel

488-4653

221 Dunbar St

Affiliation Reg Voter

Fairbanks AK 99701

Y

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
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I WANT TO EXPRESS MY VOLUNTARY SUPPORT OF HB 68. THE PASSING OF HB 68 WOULD ALLOW MY HUSBAND AND OTHER FORT KNOX EMPLOYEES MORE TIME OFF TO SPEND AT HOME PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS INCREASING INCOME BY

2.3 PERCENT. PLEASE SUPPORT HB 68. I THANK YOU!

Mr. Michael
221 Dunbar St

Steel

488-4653

Affiliation Reg Voter
 Y

Fairbanks AK 99701

Date POM Sent	Constituency	Bill Number	Response	Subject
01/24/97	N	HB 68	Supports	

I VOLUNTARILY ASK THAT YOU SUPPORT HB 68. WITH THE PASSING OF HB 68, MYSELF AS WELL AS CO-WORKERS WOULD BE GIVEN SEVEN ADDITIONAL DAYS TO SPEND AT HOME WITH THEIR FAMILIES. IT WOULD ALSO INCREASE OUR INCOME BY 2.3 PERCENT.

PLEASE SUPPORT HB 68! I GRATEFULLY THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND SUPPORT.



Gary S. Allen
1090 Coppet St
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4719

FEB 21 1997

Dear Representative

2/14/97

My name is Gary Allen. I'm writing this letter requesting your support for House Bill 68. I'm a head truck driver at Ft. Knox mine. First I want you to understand we are being pushed into waiving my overtime pay. You ~~are~~ might be thinking sure they have that's why Ft. Knox made the rotating schedule, I don't think the company would do that. I'm not asking anyone to give up their overtime wage right, I'm asking to give up mine. No one outside the Ft. Knox mine would loose their overtime wage not in less the people voted on it, as we did and it passed. Ft. Knox mine is run union so of course unions are making the most noise and opposing it. Unions always have this right so can't we? My family and I would love to have this 12 hr schedule so we can have all this time to really do something. Since it would save us money and time during lock & faith from work. Sincerely we request your support please feel free to contact me at 907-479-7854

Thank you

Gary Allen

JAN 23 1997

Gary S. Allen
1090 Coppet St
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4719

Representative Norman Rokeberg

Dear Representative,

I'm writing this in request for your support for House Bill 68. I'm a haul truck driver at the Fort Knox Gold Mine. If this bill were passed it would serve my family and myself in several ways. It would reduce my driving time and cost to and from work and it would also give me more time to spend with my family. We have two sons at home and with this new schedule we would get more time to spend with them during the warmer time of year when they are out of school, not to mention I would also receive more money at the end of the pay period. This is just one more thing that the Fort Knox Mine is trying to do to take care of its employees and family. Again, my family and I would very much appreciate your support. Please feel free to call anytime, collect.

Home phone: (907)-479-7854

Gary Allen-Haul Truck Operator

Gary Allen 1/20/97


Chom Allen-Wife

Chom C Allen 1/20/97

JAN 27 1997

Rep. Rokeberg

I am writing in full support of Bill 68, 12 hour shifts. I believe this change would give me more time with my family. I would also spend less time on the long drive to the mine. I am a Control Room Operator at the Fort Knox mine. I am a 23 year resident of Fairbanks. I have not been pressured in any way to write this letter or sign the petition and I can't believe somebody would actually think AMAX Gold would do that.



Dennis Alexander

Dennis Alexander
PO Box 35496
Ft Wainwright, Ak 99703

JAN 24 1997

Howard L. Alloway
3275 A Street Hwy
FBKS AK 99712
907-389-5597

Representative Norman Rokkeberg

18-Jan-97

I am writing this letter to let you know how I feel about House Bill 68. I am an employee at the Ft. Knox mine, I operate heavy equipment.

I am for the 12 hour shift schedule. I have experienced the 12 hour shift schedule and found that I enjoyed its benefits, 14 days worked - 14 days off.

This schedule would allow a person to have the time off to enjoy Alaska! I'm for that!

Thank you

Howard L. Alloway



To: Norman Rokeby

I'm a Mill Operator at Fort Knox Mine here in Fair Banks Alaska. I would like to think that I'm a family man. Being married for 12 years and having two children, a daughter 4 year old and a son 11. On behalf of my family and myself, I'm writing to you to let you know we really would like to have the 12-hour shift. My family! I request that you Support House Bill 68.

yours truly
Mark Rokeby

Family

1-20-97

907-488-0595

JAN 28 1997

no address

to

I am writing in regards to house bill 67.
My family and I would really like for you
to support and pass the bill. So I could have
more time with my family.

Michael & Tracy

JAN 7 8 1997

no address



FEB 05 1997

February 5, 1997

The Honorable Representative Norm Rokeberg
Chairman, House Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capitol, Room 24
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

I am writing to you today to urge your support for H. B. 68. As a contractor for over 20 years in Alaska, I recognize the importance of work hour flexibility. The work hour flexibility rules are often viewed as bringing big benefits to the employer, whereas, in reality, the biggest push for flexible hours here at our company comes from the employees. This often allows them various opportunities, whether its spending more time with their families, spending more time enhancing their education, working as a volunteer, or taking that much needed fishing trip that requires more than a two day weekend to accomplish.

Great Northwest Inc., is a union contractor, who would like to see this type of flexibility extended to our industry.

With all due respect, I ask that you support the passage of this bill out of your committee, so it may be fully debated on the floor of the house.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Howard 'Buzz' Otis".

Howard "Buzz" Otis, President
Great Northwest, Inc.



STEVE RICH GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Lic. #20926
P.O. Box 4146
Soldotna, AK 99669
(907) 260-5930 Fax (907) 260-5940

JAN 30 1997

Dear Representative Rokenberg;

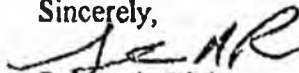
The Alaska State Home Builders Association has been working with the state legislature and governor to pass legislation that will allow our association and other association in the state to self insure fro workers compensation insurance through pooling arrangements.

This type of legislation has been enacted in over forty other states with fourteen of these states utilizing the pooling process. As a consequence, workers compensation costs have decreased dramatically for those members of state home builders associations utilizing this type of legislation. Experience has shown that when an association self insures for workers compensation the members of the association tend to focus on fraud and safety issues much more closely than their previous for profit insurance companies causing rates to dramatically decrease.

Workers compensation costs are a substantial portion of the costs of building a new house in Alaska: the average workers compensation cost for a new home in Alaska of that house and the builder of that house. New housing is expensive in Alaska, anything we can do to reduce the cost will benefit both the consumer and the new Home Builders in Alaska. As mentioned, the workers compensation pooling legislation we support has been shown to decrease these costs through reduction in fraud, improved safety efforts and peer pressure.

Myself along with hundreds of others in the home building and other associated industries support this legislation. I am writing to ask that you also support this legislation, Thank you for your help on this issue of critical importance to the economic health of our great state.

Sincerely,


Steven A. Rich,

MAR 05 1997

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE,

I AM WRITING YOU ONCE AGAIN TO ASK YOU TO SUPPORT *HOUSE BILL 68*. I AM NOT TRYING TO BOTHER YOU WITH REPETITIVE LETTERS BUT JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO ME AND MY FAMILY THAT I BE ABLE TO SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME AT HOME.

IN THE TIME THAT I HAVE WORKED FOR THE FORT KNOX GOLD MINE THEY HAVE BEEN NOTHING BUT FAIR TO ALL OF US AND I KNOW THEY WANT TO SEE THAT ALL THE WORKERS ARE CONTENT WITH THEIR JOBS. THEY ARE NOT JUST TRYING TO GET EXTRA WORK DONE FOR NOTHING, THIS IS WHAT THE EMPLOYEES REALLY WANT. I HAVE NOT TALKED TO ANYONE AT THE MINE THAT DOESN'T WANT THIS CHANGE. AS I SEE IT, THIS IS A VERY POSITIVE STEP, NOT ONLY FOR THE EMPLOYEES BUT FOR THEIR FAMILIES AS WELL. Thank you.

SINCERELY

Brian S. DeWitt

BRIAN S. DEWITT

JAN 2 1997

APR

January 19, 1997

12/16
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

MY NAME IS DWAYNE COUCH. I
WORK AS FORE MAN AS A TRUCK
DRIVER, I AM ALSO A VETERAN. I
SERVED IN THE U.S. ARMY.

I HAVE LIVED IN ALASKA FOR 10
YEARS MY WIFE GLORIA, HAS BEEN
A PRESIDENT FOR 20 YEARS. WE LIVE
IN FAIRBANKS WITH OUR 20 MONTH-OLD
SON, BENJAMIN.

MY WIFE AND I STRONGLY SUPPORT
HOUSE BILL 68.

CONCERNING THE SAFETY ISSUES; I
AM FAMILIAR WITH WORKING 12-HOUR
SHIFTS. MOST OF THOSE WHO WORK IN
CONSTRUCTION ARE. THE SAFETY FACON
WAS NEVER IN QUESTION.

THE NEWS MINER (1-18-97) QUOTED SENATOR
MINORITY LEADER, JIM RUNSON, D-JUNEAU,

"THEY ARE GOING TO BE WORKING THE
SAME HOURS, AND OF COURSE, EARNING LESS."

THIS IS NOT THE CASE. EARNINGS WILL

RECEIVED

JAN 28 1997

Ans'd.....

~~to~~ Gil Phillips

I am writing in regards to house bill 67.
My family and I would really like for you
to support and pass the bill. So I could have
more time with my family.

Michael King

1,

JAN 27 1997

Jon Benedict
Slater Drive, Apt. 14
Fairbanks, AK 99701

January 23, 1997

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

Dear Representative Rokeberg,

I am writing in support of the 12 hour shift at Fort Knox.

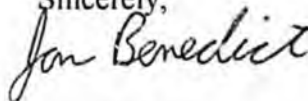
I am one of the eight shovel operators at the mine. I like my job, the pay, the benefits, and the company I work for. I do not like the rotating 8 hour shifts that we are currently on. This shift never gives you a natural rhythm, it constantly jerks your body around.

In 1993, I experienced a change from an 8 hour rotating shift to a 12 hour rotating shift. Although you still rotate, the change is unbelievable. I had more energy on and off the job. The increased time off (91 days each year) gives a person more time to spend with his family. My son visits me for 8 weeks in the summer. The 12 hour shift would allow me to spend 28 days with him instead of just 14.

The 12 hour shift would mean a 2.3% increase in gross pay and would save me about 4,500 miles each year commuting to and from work. I could really make use of the extra time and money.

So, in closing, I have "been there, done that" and know for certain that a 12 hour shift is a much healthier way for me and my family to live.

Sincerely,



Jon Benedict

January 18, 1997

Leo S. Harosia
310 Bote Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99712

To: Representative Gene Therriault,

I presently work at the Fort Knox Gold Mine as a haul truck driver, I have been employed at the mine for the past six months and find my job rewarding and enjoyable.

This letter is in response to the proposed action on House Bill 68 regarding 12 hour work shifts for certain employees at the Fort Knox Gold Mine. I fully support the proposal for the following reasons.

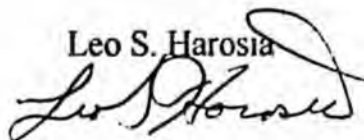
I am married and have three teen-age children at home. Currently I have 7 days off every four weeks, this does not leave much time to spend with my family or to enjoy all that Alaska has to offer in terms of recreation and activity. With my current schedule I often find myself unable to support my children in school activities and sporting events. This lack of parental interaction has a negative effect on our family and the community as well. My wife works at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital as a nurse and has been working 12 hour shifts for seven years. Her work schedule has allowed our family added quality time and the ability to be more active in community matters as well.

The financial impact of 12 hour shifts would also prove to be a positive one. Decreasing travel expenses and wear and tear on vehicles along with improving air quality for the community in extreme temperature conditions should also be considered.

Myself and my family ask you to support House Bill 68 to assist us in a better quality of life. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Leo S. Harosia



I am a employee of the
 Fort Knox mine near Fairbanks.
 I am single and my job is
 Crusher operator and this letter
 concerns (House Bill 68) the 12
 hour work day that is soon to be
 in legislation. I am very much
 for the 12 hour schedule, it has
 many benefits, more money, less
 travel time and cost, more time off,
 to name a few, but the main
 point I wish to make is that the
 7 day 8 hours week, presently in use
 ruins any chance of having a normal
 life outside of work. What time off
 that I do get is spent catching up on
 projects and resting up for the next 7
 days of work. I have seen many fellow
 employees quit and the only reason was the
 norhschedule. I beg of you, for a speedy
 passing of HB 68. Yours Truly
 Alex Karellis

Dear Sir:

Rep. Norm Rokoberg
 Rm. 24, State Capt.
 Juneau, Alaska
 99801-1182

Alex Karellis
 P.O. Box 83083
 Fairbanks Alaska
 99708

JAN 27 1997

118111