

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997-1998 8672

9288 HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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

COMMITTEE ON H.B. 68 DATED 29 JAN 97
BILL/SUBJECT

This is inform anyone how well lissou, this labor dispoint Don't concern, the union in any way shape or form, it is a ploy to keep good men & women from persuing a higher quality of life so that they can keep a toe hold on labor & keep the money for them selves, I feel that Fort Knox is making an attempt to give use the employes a better quality off life so we can provide for our families

SIGNED Mark A. Hambleton mark a. Hambleton
TESTIFIER

Lakebank Gold Mining Co. Fort Knox
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

2781 Totem Dr. Lakebank Ak 99709
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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

COMMITTEE ON HB 68 DATED 29 Jan 97
BILL/SUBJECT

I have worked this schedule in the past, I enjoyed working this schedule. It gave me time to spend with my family. It gave me time to do the things I enjoy, hunting, camping, ect.

I saved money because my trips to and from work was cut by 1/3.

I want this schedule.

SIGNED *Howard L. Alloway* Howard L. Alloway
TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

3275 A Steese Hwy PBXs AK 99712 907 389 5592
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

JAN-28-97 TUE 12:41

AKDOL COMMISSICNER

FAX NO. 9074652784

P. 01

JAN-28-97 TUE 12:40 PM

LABOR STANDARDS

FAX NO. 907 451 2885

P. 01

STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WAGE & HOUR ADMINISTRATION
LABOR STANDARDS & SAFETY DIVISION

675 SEVENTH AVENUE, STATION 3
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
PHONE: (907) 451-2886
FAX: (907) 451-2885

July 11, 1995

Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc.
P.O. Box 73726
Fairbanks, AK 99707-3726

RE: Approval of Voluntary Flexible Work Hour Plan

Dear Mr. Brown:

Enclosed is your approved Voluntary Flexible Work Hour Plan. The original approved plan should become a permanent part of your records. Remember to make a copy of the approved plan each time you have an employee entering your Flexible Work Hour Plan, have the individual date and sign the copy, and maintain this copy as part of your employee records. An approved plan must be on file for each employee that is working under a Flexible Work Hour Plan.

Each employee must voluntarily participate in the approved plan. If employees are coerced to participate the entire plan may be void. Further, it is important to be aware that if the employee's work schedule varies substantially from the hours in the approved Flexible Work Hour Plan the plan may be invalidated. You could then be in violation of the overtime requirements and owe the employees back overtime plus penalties.

If you have any questions regarding your plan please contact our office at 451-2886.

Sincerely,

Labor Standards and Safety Division

Enclosure

Printed FAX Note	7671	Date	1/28/95	in digits	2
To	ED FINIGON	From	ROUSAR		
Company	COMMISSIONER	Co	DOL W & H		
Phone	465-2700	Phone #	451-2886		
Fax	465-2784	Fax #	451-2885		

STATE OF ALASKA
 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 WAGE AND HOUR ADMINISTRATION
 675 - 7TH AVENUE, STATION J
 FAIRBANKS, AK 99701

Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. 7-10-95
 NAME OF EMPLOYER OR DBA (PLEASE PRINT) DATE:
 Diark Brown 452-4653
 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE (PLEASE PRINT) TELEPHONE:
 P.O. Box 73726 Fairbanks Alaska 99707-3726
 ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE

FLEXIBLE WORK HOUR PLAN

This is our request to enter into a Flexible Work Hour Plan. The intent of this plan is not to afford the employer relief from the payment of overtime. It is designed to allow some scheduling flexibility by affording the employee an opportunity to work a reduced number of days within a 40-hour work week. Therefore, an employee working under this plan will not be scheduled to regularly work hours in excess of 40 hours per week. Occasional hours of work by an employee under this plan in excess of 40 hours per week and 20 hours per day must be compensated at the rate of time and a half. I also understand that in making this request approved plans will be subject to periodic screening by the Department of Labor to protect against unlawful use to circumvent the payment of overtime.

The following is the description of the Flexible Hour Work Plan that we have agreed to enter into:

Employees will work a ten-hour workday schedule either on a day shift and/or a night shift. Employees may work a straight day shift, Monday through Thursday or Tuesday through Friday, or they will work a rotating work schedule from day shift to night shift with rotating days off.

The above described plan is entered into VOLUNTARILY on the part of all parties and IS NOT a condition of employment.

D. L. Brown EMPLOYER'S AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE Administration Superintendent TITLE

STATE USE ONLY

DATE APPROVED: 7/10/95	<u>Pho H. Ly</u>
DATE DISAPPROVED:	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE SIGNED BY THE EMPLOYEE AFTER DEPARTMENT APPROVAL:

EMPLOYEE NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____ DATE _____



CARLILE ENTERPRISES, INC.

1813 East 1st Avenue • Anchorage, AK 99501 • (907) 276-7797

January 29, 1997

JAN 29 1997

Representative N. Rokeburg
House of Representatives

RE: CSHB68

Dear Representative Rokeburg:

We support this bill as written. If it passes, we feel the option of 12 hour work days should be available to all employees in Alaska on equal basis.

Sincerely,

Harry McDonald
President

COUCH
300 HOWLAND RD #17
FAIRBANKS ALASKA 99712

JANUARY 19, 1997

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

MY NAME IS DWAYNE COUCH. I
WORK AT FORT KNODY AS A HAUL 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 FACTOR
WAS NEVER IN QUESTION.

THE NEWS MINER (1-18-97) QUOTES SENATE
MINORITY LEADER, JIM DUNCAN, D-TUNEAL,
"THEY ARE GOING TO BE WORKING THE
SAME HOURS, AND OF COURSE, EARNING LESS."
THIS IS NOT THE CASE. EARNINGS WILL

BE SLIGHTLY INCREASED. COMMUTING
TIME AND EXPENSE WOULD BE CUT BY
ONE-THIRD.

THERE ARE ALSO NON-MONETARY BENEFITS. I WOULD HAVE THE TIME TO
PERSUE THOSE THINGS OF INTEREST AND
IMPORTANCE, OUR FAMILY COULD TRAVEL
AND EXPLORE THIS GREAT STATE WE CALL
HOME, MOST OF WHICH WE HAVE NEVER
SEEN. I COULD SPEND MORE TIME WITH
MY WIFE AND SON. ALSO, TIME TO PARTICIPATE
IN POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS.

WE URGE YOU TO PASS H- BILL 68.
THIS SCHEDULE IS WHAT THE FORT KNOX
EMPLOYEES WANT, AS THE PETITION
CLEARLY INDICATES.

DeWayne M. [Signature]

JAN 22 1997

Paul Roeder
P.O. Box 83548
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Representative Norman Rokeburg
Room 24
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Norman Rokeburg:

I am writing to inform you that I strongly support House Bill 68 and urge you to vote for its passage.

I'm a mine engineer at Fairbanks Gold's Fort Knox Mine. The ability to work a forty hour per week work schedule instead of the current eight hour per day schedule will allow me to spend my free time and money traveling around the state experiencing all it has to offer. Under the current schedule I have to drive approximately 70 miles extra per week commuting to work. This extra cost and time spent on the road during high traffic times is unnecessary.

I have worked twelve and ten our shift schedules at other mines and safety was never compromised at any operation by the longer work hours. It can be argued that the safety of the people who work at the Fort Knox mine will be increased with the reduced traffic on the roads due to the longer shift schedule.

Please support House Bill 68

Sincerely,



Paul Roeder

Jan 17 1996

Dear Representative Sherriault Rm 511

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"

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

Thank you for your
time and support.

Michael Timm

JAN 19, 1997

Representative Gene Therriault
Room 511
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Therriault,

Support H.B. 68

I am a Blaster for Amax Gold Inc. at the Fort Knox site where I have been employed over one year. As with any job with some responsibility, I have had several occasions to express contrary views and opinions at the mine. I make this statement only to try to dispel the opinion that employees are being coerced into pushing for this legislation. To my knowledge Fort Knox has never based job evaluations on anything but work performance.

I am married with 3 children. My wife does not work for pay outside the home. We are also foster parents. Two of the children are teen-agers.

We live outside the power grid. And generate our own power, carry our water from the Fox Springs, plow 1 mile of road every time it snows, etc. Additionally with two teen-agers, we make frequent 60 mile round trips to town. Needless to say we do not have much spare time.

And that is why I request your support for House Bill 68. Time... If I were allowed complete my work week sooner, I would have more days off for family and free time. In addition I would spend less money on work related expenses, gasoline, automotive, lunches, etc.

I was unavailable at the time the petitions were circulated. But I intend to sign it on 1/20/1997 if I can track it down. If my name is not found on it please use this letter as my support of the petition.

If you wish to call me at home, please do. The phones in my area are radio phones and not the most dependable, so keep trying.

Thank you,



Dan Schwiert
Phone/Fax 907-389-2727
P.O. Box 10361
Fairbanks, AK 99710

Copies to: Ramona Barnes, John Cowdery, John Davies, Gary Davis, Bill Hudson, Jeannette James, Pete Kelley, Pete Kott, Gail Phillips, Brian Porter, Norman Rokeberg, Joe Ryan, Loren Leman, Mike Miller, Sean Parnell, Bert Sharp, Gary Wilken and Commissioner of labor, Tom Cashen.

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.

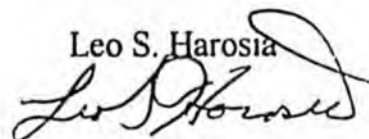
I am married and have three teen-age children at home. Currently I have 7 days off every four weeks, this does not leave much time to spend with my family or to enjoy all that Alaska has to offer in terms of recreation and activity. With my current schedule I often find myself unable to support my children 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



Representative Gene Therriault
Room 511
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

January 20, 1997

Representative Therriault:

I am writing to you to ask for your support for House Bill 68, allowing for the voluntary right to work for a 12 hour day, 40 hour week without overtime. I am an employee at the Fort Knox Mine near Fairbanks, and there are three main reasons why I am asking for your support. ...

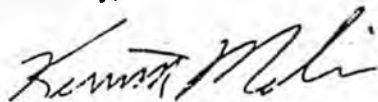
Currently I have to drive 30 miles to work and back on a daily basis. The commute takes approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes and 4 gallons of fuel per day of work. This adds up to 30 hours and 84 gallons of fuel per month of work. House Bill 68 would reduce the driving time to 18.5 hours per month and only 56 gallons of fuel used. Over the course of a year the reduction in fuel need would result in a \$453.60 savings at current gas prices. I would also have additional time to spend with my family.

Secondly, to keep this mine running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the company must rotate its employees schedules in a rather peculiar way to prevent paying excessive overtime under the current law. Now I do not know your own political views on what the rights or wrongs of that are, but I do know what the current schedule is like for the employees. Under the current system, the employees must rotate between days, swing, and graveyard schedules every 7 days. Their bodies have no sooner adjusted to the sleep cycle and it changes. Their families have no sooner adapted to their schedule and it changes. Planning family time, vacation time, or personal time becomes a nightmare. Simply put, the current schedule is a morale buster. The company chose this schedule because it is the cheapest for them under the current laws, but it is horrible for the employees. The employees overwhelmingly support the new proposed schedule, and the company believes that it can afford to pay for it. It is a win, win proposition.

Finally, I am sickened when I look at the paper and read the reasons that some lawmakers are unhappy with the Bill. They say that the workers would be cheated of overtime pay under the bill. These guys need to get their wits together and realize that no matter what the law says, any company is going to devise a schedule that is most cost effective for them - PERIOD. Instead of getting cheated from overtime by the current law, employees are being cheated out of family time. Any employee here will tell you that if they are still going to get the same pay per month, they will gladly take the new schedule to get more time at home. Those lawmakers that oppose this common sense bill are the same sanctimonious people who claim they are for the little guy. However, it is the little guys here who are begging for the change and are being told it is not a good idea, by people who claim to know what is best for them. The same people who, I might add, let the federal government take 36.25% of my Christmas bonus - a bonus which was supposed to reward me for my hard work. See who it is rewarding now.

Thank you for your time, and please support House Bill 68.

Sincerely,



Kermitt Melvin - one of the little guys you are supposed to care so much about.

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 be 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

Paul Roeder
P.O. Box 83548
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Representative Gene Therriault
Room 511
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Representative Gene Therriault:

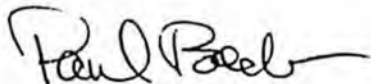
I am writing to inform you that I strongly support House Bill 68 and urge you to vote for its passage.

I'm a mine engineer at Fairbanks Gold's Fort Knox Mine. The ability to work a forty hour per week work schedule instead of the current eight hour per day schedule will allow me to spend my free time and money traveling around the state experiencing all it has to offer. Under the current schedule I have to drive approximately 70 miles extra per week commuting to work. This extra cost and time spent on the road during high traffic times is unnecessary.

I have worked twelve and ten our shift schedules at other mines and safety was never compromised at any operation by the longer work hours. It can be argued that the safety of the people who work at the Fort Knox mine will be increased with the reduced traffic on the roads due to the longer shift schedule.

Please support House Bill 68

Sincerely,



Paul Roeder

Letters of Support
Distributed to Labor and Commerce Committee

JAN 22 1997

Jan. 18, 1997

Dear Representative Norman
Rokeberg

It has been brought to my attention that you are going to be involved in bill 68 in week of 1/27/97.

I am an employee at Fairbanks Gold since Aug. '95. I would like to urge you to support the bill. I drive a haul truck for Fairbanks Gold. I am married and have lived in the Fairbanks area since 6/86.

I would like to see this bill passed as it would benefit me in gas alone, due to the distance I have to travel. Although my children are all grown and gone, it would give my wife and I more time together.

The shifts we are working at present is a hardship on all the employees as we can't get our bodies changed around due to the constant shift changes.

For the most part, Fairbanks Gold is a fine company to work for, and they have upheld the majority of what they have told us.

Yours truly,
John C. Claughton



John C. Claughton
1028 Evergreen st #3
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4322

cc:Mail for: Representative Norman Rokeberg

Subject: House Bill 68

From: outback@mosquiconet.com at CC2MHS1 1/20/97 7:41pm

cc: Representative Sean Parnell at JNU_LAA

To: Senator Bert Sharp at LAA_TRANS

bcc: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS

To: Legislature Members

Dear Representative;

I am sending you this letter to inform you of why I support House Bill 68 that will be discussed (and hopefully passed) by you later this month. I work as a security guard for the Fort Knox Mine that is operated by Fairbanks Gold Inc. At the present time I am working a schedule that requires me to drive a round trip distance from my residence of 86 miles. I do this for 7 days, then 4 day off, then 7 evenings, then 1 day off, then 7 mids, and 1 1/2 days off, then back to the beginning again. I am married and have a 14 year old daughter, both of which I get very little time be with at the current schedule. The proposed change that has been sent to you for consideration would do a great deal to change my current situation by reducing the number of trips to the job and giving me additional days off to spend with my family. It would also increase the production of the mine by eliminating one entire shift change per day. I personally feel that the benifits to the employees by this change far outweigh the benifits to the company. You must understand, that this is a unique company. I have never worked for a company that is more concerned with the happiness and safety of their employees and I feel very fortunate to be a part of their team. It was the employees that asked for this change by petition. I would greatly appreciate your support on this Bill.

Patrick M. Callaway

Proud to be an Alaskan

(and wife Cat who would love more time with husband!)

Mr. John
3201 Laurance Rd

W Moss

488-8328

Affiliation Reg Voter
U

North Pole AK 99705

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

12 HOUR SHIFTS WOULD BE TO ME AND MY FAMILY'S BEST INTEREST. WE COULD BETTER TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SHORT SUMMERS AND STILL MAKE A GOOD LIVING. THANK YOU.

Mr. Benjamin M Gorman
PO Box 55066

488-0442

	Affiliation	Reg Voter		
North Pole AK 99705		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.

Mr. Grant
3030 Treaty St

S Anderson

488-4653

North Pole AK 99705

Affiliation Reg Voter
Y

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 DONT BELIEVE

SAFETY WILL BE JEOPARDIZED.

Mr. Victor D Brown
489 Droz Dr

490-2204

Affiliation Reg Voter
Y

Fairbanks AK 99701

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.

EMPLOYEE PETITION

We the undersigned, employees of Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc., urge the Legislature to pass legislation which would change the current employee voluntary flexible work hour law (AS 23.10.060(14)(B)) to allow a full 12 hours of work in one day without overtime pay (limited to 40 hours of work before overtime in any week). The shift plan, which the change in the law would allow the Company to adopt, would have us work the same numbers of hours in 14 days which we are currently working in 21 days and at increased income. Thus, the effect of the change in the law will be to allow us the opportunity to spend more time with our families. It will also give Fairbanks Gold employees greater economic security as a result of the mine's increased operating efficiency.

The Fairbanks Gold is well within compliance of the Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA) regulations. Fairbanks Gold is a safe operation and maintains an effective, employee-oriented safety program. The extensions to 12 hours of work in one day will not compromise safety, as demonstrated in other states which already authorize 12 hours. A number of us have worked extended hours at other operations without compromising occupational health and safety.

Sincerely,

Name	Job Title
Dennis Pratt	E/I Supervisor
David McClure	Electrician
Keith Palchukoff	Instrument Tech
James Kirkell	ELECTRICIAN
Bill Dewber	Electrician
Carl A. Johnson	Electrician
John Anderson	Instrumentation
Mike [unclear]	5-1

EMPLOYEE PETITION

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Sincerely,

Name	Job Title
<i>Steve Christophersen</i>	mine data coord.
<i>John Boyington</i>	M. E. M.
<i>Joseph Hamblin</i>	Small. Veh. Mech.
<i>David King</i>	Maint.
<i>David C. Bone</i>	Fuel Lube
<i>Charles [unclear]</i>	Fuel Lube
<i>Greg Chapin</i> (Greg Chapin)	Welder/Mechanic
<i>Travis [unclear]</i>	Welder/Mechanic
<i>Paul [unclear]</i>	LUBE MECH
<i>Paul [unclear]</i>	WELDER MECHANIC
<i>Paul [unclear]</i>	WELDER MECH
<i>DAVE STEWARD</i>	FUEL-LUBE MECH
<i>NOEL KENNEDY</i> (NOEL KENNEDY)	Maintenance Planner
<i>Richard [unclear]</i>	Maintenance Supervisor
<i>Paul [unclear]</i>	Fuel-Lube Mech.
<i>Bill [unclear]</i>	Building MAINT.
<i>David [unclear]</i>	Welder Mech
<i>Tom [unclear]</i>	Mech Welder
<i>Gene [unclear]</i>	HELPER MECHANIC
<i>Gene Anderson</i>	WELD/Mech
<i>Mark [unclear]</i>	Welder
<i>Paul [unclear]</i>	FUEL LUBE
<i>Al Weed</i>	MAINT
<i>Alan [unclear]</i>	Fuel Lube Mech
<i>Tom [unclear]</i>	BUILDING MAINT
<i>Luke Baysinger</i>	

Donnie Rice

EMPLOYEE PETITION

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Sincerely,

Name	Job Title
Roger J. Bell	Truck Driver
D. D. Bell	EQUIP. OPER.
Paul [unclear]	Shovel operator
M. [unclear]	Shovel operator
T. [unclear]	Truck Driver
Mark [unclear]	DRILLER
Ed [unclear]	TRUCK DRIVERS
Ed [unclear]	DOZER OPERATOR
[unclear]	TRUCK DRIVER
Guy Bell	Truck Driver
Brian Hamilton	GRADER OPERATOR
[unclear]	Truck Driver
[unclear]	TRK DRIVER
Brian J. Smith	TRK DRIVER
Paul [unclear]	Supervisor
Donnie Rice	Supervisor

EMPLOYEE PETITION

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Sincerely,

Name	Job Title
Daryl Framinger	TRUCK DRIVER
Shawn Mahoney	TRUCK DRIVER
Bernie Muller	TRUCK DRIVER
Gregory J. Jandy	TRUCK DRIVER
James Otis	TRUCK DRIVER
Rusty Roberts	TRUCK DRIVER
CHUCK OTMANOWSKI	DOZER OPERATOR
John Gentry	TRUCK DRIVER
Shawn G. Lewis	Shovel operator
Ronald K. J. Jandy	DOZER OPERATOR
Robert M. Chutberg	TRUCK DRIVER
JAMES ISAACSON	GRADER OPER
Bill STEPHENS	SUPERVISOR
Lorne L. G.	Shovel operator

Jim Starr

EMPLOYEE PETITION

We the undersigned, employees of Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc., urge the Legislature to pass legislation which would change the current employee voluntary flexible work hour law (AS 23.10.060(14)(B) to allow a full 12 hours of work in one day without overtime pay (limited to 40 hours of work before overtime in any week). The shift plan, which the change in the law would allow the Company to adopt, would have us work the same numbers of hours in 14 days which we are currently working in 21 days and at increased income. Thus, the effect of the change in the law will be to allow us the opportunity to spend more time with our families. It will also give Fairbanks Gold employees greater economic security as a result of the mine's increased operating efficiency.

The Fairbanks Gold is well within compliance of the Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA) regulations. Fairbanks Gold is a safe operation and maintains an effective, employee-oriented safety program. The extensions to 12 hours of work in one day will not compromise safety, as demonstrated in other states which already authorize 12 hours. A number of us have worked extended hours at other operations without compromising occupational health and safety.

Sincerely,

Name	Job Title
Douglas C. Heibel	General Mining Foreman
Stan Tonelli	Grader Operator
KARL HUTTON	Dozer Operator
BOB DICK	DOZER HAND
John Houston	SHOVEL OPERATOR
[Signature]	HAUL TRUCK
[Signature]	HAUL TRUCK
Charles Raul	SHAVEL OPERATOR
Robert J. Hanna	Haul Truck
Evan Mendes	Haul Truck
Hector Palmer	Grader operator
[Signature]	HAUL TRUCK OPERATOR
Lance C. Fenton	Haul Truck Driver
[Signature]	HAUL TRUCK DRIVER
[Signature]	HAUL TRUCK DRIVER
David Johnson	Dozer operator

cc:Mail for: Representative Norman Rokeberg

Subject: Fort Knox work schedule - --- HB 68
From: palchkff@polarnet.com at CC2MHS1 2/3/97 9:37am
To: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS

FEB 03 1997

Hello Representative Norman;

I am an instrument technician at the Fort Knox mine and strongly support amending state law for surface miners to work flexible shifts. This needed change adheres to the Alaskan motto - - "Work hard/ play hard." My fellow workers in the instrument and electric shop all want to work longer hours in exchange for more free time.

Free time - - to spend with our families and enjoy this beautiful state. I appreciate the Union's concern yet believe so long as we are paid overtime for working longer than 40 hrs. per week, this is fair.

Please help us.
Thank you.

Keith Palchikoff,
Instrument technician Fort Knox

cc:Mail for: Pat Springer

Subject: <none>

▷ Forwarded: Representative Gail Phillips 1/28/97 1:00 PM

To: Pat Springer

Subject: <none>

From: gkalk@polarnet.com (Grace & Larry Kalk) at CC2MHS1

Date: 1/22/97 8:21 PM

January 22 1997

To whom it may concern:

My name is Larry Kalk. I am an employee of Amax Gold Inc. at the Fort Knox project 25 miles north of Fairbanks. Soon you will be deciding on the fate of House Bill 68. I urge you to vote yes on this Bill. The passage of this Bill is very important to all the Fort Knox employees.

Currently our schedule is as follows: 7 straight days of 3 p.m.- 11 p.m. 48 hours off. 7 straight days of 11 p.m.- 7 a.m. 48 hours off. 7 straight days of 7 a.m.- 3 p.m. 96 hours off. As you can see this schedule is brutal on any sort of life outside of work.

House Bill 68 proposes 12 hour shifts with overtime paid on anything over 12 hours on the same day and anything over 40 for the week. This schedule, however it is set up, will greatly reduce the time we spend on the job. However, it will not reduce our pay, it will slightly increase it.

Besides the obvious benefits of having more time away from the job. Such as, more time to spend with my family. I'm married and have 4 teenage children. There are other ways this change in schedule will be beneficial. Less time spent on the road to and from work will save wear and tear on all of our automobiles. Especially at -30 and -40 degrees, such as we are experiencing now. We will have time to travel to other parts of Alaska and spend our hard earned money. Anchorage, maybe even Juneau. Not only Fairbanks, but other communities will see the benefits of this change in work schedule.

In closing, I hope you take the time to read a few of these letters. This schedule change is not being shoved down our throats by the company. The employees truly want to see this Bill passed. I will appreciate your yes vote on House Bill 68. Thank You.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Kalk

cc:Mail for: Representative Norman Rokeberg

Subject: House Bill 68

From: outback@mosquitonet.com at CC2MHS1 1/20/97 7:41pm

cc: Representative Sean Parnell at JNU_LAA

To: Senator Bert Sharp at LAA_TRANS

bcc: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS

To; Legislature Members

Dear Representative;

I am sending you this letter to inform you of why I support House Bill 68 that will be discussed (and hopefully passed) by you later this month. I work as a security guard for the Fort Knox Mine that is operated by Fairbanks Gold Inc. At the present time I am working a schedule that requires me to drive a round trip distance from my residence of 86 miles. I do this for 7 days, then 4 day off, then 7 evenings, then 1 day off, then 7 mids, and 1 1/2 days off, then back to the beginning again. I am married and have a 14 year old daughter, both of which I get very little time be with at the current schedule. The proposed change that has been sent to you for consideration would do a great deal to change my current situation by reducing the number of trips to the job and giving me additional days off to spend with my family. It would also increase the production of the mine by eliminating one entire shift change per day. I personally feel that the benifits to the employees by this change far outweigh the benifits to the company. You must understand, that this is a unique company. I have never worked for a company that is more concerned with the happiness and safety of their employees and I feel very fortunate to be a part of their team. It was the employees that asked for this change by petition. I would greatly appreciate your support on this Bill.

Patrick M. Callaway

Proud to be an Alaskan

(and wife Cat who would love more time with husband!)

cc:Mail for: Representative Norman Rokeberg

Subject: pchuk:

From: pchuk@juno.com (peter marchuk) at CC2MHS1 5/2/97 1:13pm

To: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS

MAY 02 1997

TWENTIETH ALASKA LEGISLATURE

I AM AN ALASKAN WORKER AND A LIFE LONG RESIDENT. THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATION IS AN ATTACK AGAINST THE VERY PEOPLE WHO MAKE THIS STATE GREAT. YOUR ISOLATION IN JUNEAU HAS AFFECTED YOUR COMMITMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE ALASKAN WORKER. YOUR PORTRAYAL OF HELPING ALASKANS THROUGH STREAMLINING WORKER PROTECTION LAWS AND INTRODUCING MORE "BUSINESS FRIENDLY" LEGISLATION IS A FALSE COVER. THE REAL AGENDA IS TO BREAK DOWN THE WILL AND THE RIGHTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE IN THE NAME OF PROFIT!

REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE MORE WORKING ALASKAN RESIDENTS THAN BUSINESSMEN IN ALASKA. THIS LEGISLATION WILL RUN OUR STATE INTO THE GROUND. YOUR ACTIONS ARE BOTH MEAN SPIRITED AND MISGUIDED. THE ONLY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP YOU PEOPLE NEED TO CATER TO IS THE ALASKAN PEOPLE AS A WHOLE!

I AM AGAINST THE FOLLOWING:

HB68
HB118
HB124
HB209
HB207
SB68
SB114
SB150
SB151

TO MY REPRESENTATIVES PEARCE AND ROKEBERG, I AM DISAPPOINTED AND APPALLED. I DON'T CARE HOW OTHER STATES ARE RUNNING THEIR BUSINESS, YOUR CONCERN SHOULD BE FOR ALASKANS AND ALASKANS THAT WORK FOR A WAGE. YOUR VOICE MUST NOT BE "ALASKANS FOR PROFIT" AND SCREW THE REST!!!!!!!

PETER MARCHUK
921 WEST 77th ANCH
AK 99518

----- End forwarded message -----

cc:Mail for: Representative Norman Rokeberg

Subject: 12 hours shifts with no overtime
From: 72571.2312@compuserve.com at CG2MHS1 2/5/97 11:05pm
To: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS

HB68

FEB 06 1997

Mr. Rokeberg,

I live in Two Rivers. Since you are the Chair of the Labor & Commerce Committee I am letting you know by concerns about proposed legislation to allow 12 hour work shifts with no overtime pay. This idea is a step backward for working people and all Alaskans. The Legislature will NEVER be able to refuse another request for exemption from the requirement to pay overtime if this is passed. The idea that it is voluntary is simply not true. This is purely for the convenience and most importantly the bottom line of employers. As a non-represented employee how can someone not "volunteer" for such a shift if the company wants him/her to? Don't go along with this ill-conceived proposal in ANY form. Kill it in committee first!

Sincerely,
John D. Antonuk
PO Box 16220
Two Rivers, AK 99716

72571.2312@compuserve.com

HB

72

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: March 14, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Finance

Date of Committee Action: 4/2/97

The LABOR AND COMMERCE Committee considered:

HB 72

HOUSE BILL NO. 72

SERVICE OF PROCESS ON NONRES TAXPAYERS

"An Act repealing certain filing statements and bonds for enforcement and collection of certain taxes and license fees; relating to service of process on nonresident taxpayers; and providing for an effective date."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title
 a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s): (Dept) _____

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) DOCE & DOR

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Nan Rokely</i>	✓			
<i>Bill Hudson</i>	✓			
<i>Joe Ryan</i>	✓			
<i>Tom Brice</i>			✓	
<i>Tom Sanders</i>	✓			
<i>John J. Conduff</i>	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE Nan Rokely

4-2-97

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1
 Bill Version: HB 72
 (H) Publish Date: 1/15/97

**STATE OF ALASKA
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date: _____ Department: Commerce and Economic Development
 Title: Elimination of nonresident affidavit tax bond BRU: Banking, Securities & Corporations
program Component: Banking, Securities & Corporations
 Sponsor: Rules by Request
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1233

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHANGE IN REVENUES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 General Fund						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Willis F. Kirkpatrick, Director Phone: 465-2521
 Division: Banking, Securities and Corporations Date: 10/30/96
 Approved by Commissioner: William L. Hensley Date: 10/30/96
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

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COMMITTEE COPY

Revision Date: _____ Depr. Affected: Revenue
 Title: Tax Bond Repeal BRU: Revenue Operations
 Component: Income and Excise Audit
 Sponsor: Rules Committee
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 113

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost \$ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would repeal requirements for nonresident taxpayers to file an annual affidavit with Department of Revenue. The affidavit requires taxpayers to estimate and post security for their tax liability for the upcoming year; however, AS 43.10.160 authorizes a waiver of security for good cause. Repeal of this requirement would reduce unnecessary work for both business and state workers. The program costs \$30,000 to administer and interest income earned on the bonds was approximately \$100,000. Staff time freed up is needed to increase our compliance work in corporate, motor fuel and fisheries taxes. New revenues from increased compliance is expected to more than offset loss of interest income. Income and Excise Audit Division has never had to file a claim against security posted under this program.

Prepared by: Paul E. Dick Phone: 465-3691
 Division: Income and Excise Audit Date: October 23, 1996
 Approved by Commissioner: Wilson L. Condon Date: 10/23/96
 Agency: Revenue

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4/2/97 HB 72

Bob Bartholomew - DOR

so it is
\$30,000
but also
\$488,000 interest
put in
note
competition
billions
money

is directing 800 staff hours
from the program to compliance
in other key areas

in state ^{businesses} are not covered
out of state businesses are covered

the \$30,000 program costs were
mentioned but no real
explanation about why there is
not a negative fiscal note -

the other areas where there are bonds required
to be posted - currently there is a fisheries
bond.

it requires a court action to access the
bond # either the insurance bond
or cost bond -

what about contractors - residential
construction

not address of DOR -

Chairman

Please provide a copy of Archorage
and State Chamber letters

Hudson - asking about contractor's
license -

is DOR involved in the
investment of bond funds
provided by contractors
within DOR. The Treasury
Division does the investing
and after they invest but
probably use short term
investments and that's why
the return of interest
back to the contractor is so
low -

MAR 27 1997

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
INCOME AND EXCISE AUDIT DIVISION
March 24, 1997

HB 72 - Service of Process on Non-resident Taxpayers

HB 72, would repeal state statutes and regulations requiring unnecessary paperwork to be filed by nonresident corporations doing business in Alaska. Under AS 43.10.160 - 200, Nonresident Affidavit (NRA) Tax Bond Program, nonresident corporations (businesses who's official corporate registration is in another state) must file a sworn affidavit and obtain a bond to secure potential tax liabilities. This requirement results in businesses annually completing and filing forms with the state. Department staff must process and file documents as well as provide telephone assistance. This requirement was initiated in 1955 and has out lived its usefulness. Our staff do not remember a case where an NRA bond was ever used to pay delinquent taxes. Modern technology has provided many other ways to locate businesses and secure tax payments.

Section 1 of the bill amends AS 43.10.170(b). This section of statute currently appoints the Commissioner of Commerce as the agent, for all non-resident corporations, upon which the original process is served for any action or legal proceeding resulting from the taxpayer's failure to meet tax obligations. The amendment to this section deletes the tax affidavit form as a source of taxpayer address, as this form will no longer be required. Other sources of taxpayer addresses is available.

Section 2 of the bill repeals 4 sections of law which established the Nonresident Affidavit (NRA) Tax Bond Program.

Section 3 established an effective date of January 1, 1998.

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Revenue
 Title: Tax Bond Repeal BRU: Revenue Operations
 Component: Income and Excise Audit
 Sponsor: Rules Committee
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 113

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost \$ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME					
PART-TIME					
TEMPORARY					

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would repeal requirements for nonresident taxpayers to file an annual affidavit with Department of Revenue. The affidavit requires taxpayers to estimate and post security for their tax liability for the upcoming year; however, AS 43.10.160 authorizes a waiver of security for good cause. Repeal of this requirement would reduce unnecessary work for both business and state workers. The program costs \$30,000 to administer and interest income earned on the bonds was approximately \$100,000. Staff time freed up is needed to increase our compliance work in corporate, motor fuel and fisheries taxes. New revenues from increased compliance is expected to more than offset loss of interest income. Income and Excise Audit Division has never had to file a claim against security posted under this program.

Prepared by: Paul E. Dick Phone: 465-3691
 Division: Income and Excise Audit Date: October 23, 1996
 Approved by Commissioner: Wilson L. Condon Date: 10/23/96
 Agency: Revenue

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STATE OF ALASKA

MAR 19 1997

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

INCOME AND EXCISE AUDIT
P. O. BOX 110420
JUNEAU, AK 99811-0420
FAX: (907) 465-2375

March 18, 1997

The Honorable Norman Rokeberg
Alaska State Legislature
House Labor & Commerce Committee
State Capitol, Room 24
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: House Bill 72, Service of Process on Nonresident Taxpayers

Dear Chairman Rokeberg:

HB 72, would repeal state statutes and regulations requiring unnecessary paperwork to be filed by nonresident corporations doing business in Alaska. This bill has been referred to your committee and I respectfully request you schedule the legislation for a hearing.

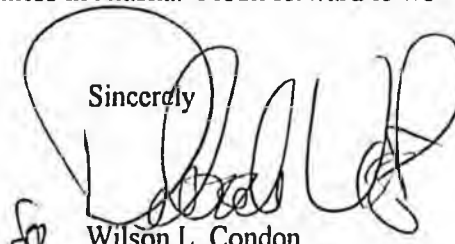
Under AS 43.10.160 - 200, Nonresident Affidavit (NRA) Tax Bond Program, nonresident corporations (businesses who's official corporate registration is in another state) must file a sworn affidavit and obtain a bond to secure potential tax liabilities. This requirement results in businesses annually completing and filing forms with the state. Department staff must process and file documents as well as provide telephone assistance. This requirement was initiated in 1955 and has out lived its usefulness. Our staff do not remember a case where an NRA bond was ever used to pay delinquent taxes. Modern technology has provided many other ways to locate businesses and secure tax payments.

This issue was discussed in numerous Senate and House committees last year and received unanimous support. Omnibus Senate Bill 215, which included repeal of the NRA statutes, passed the Senate but failed to pass the House during the adjournment process. Thus a stand alone bill has been introduced to complete the work done by everyone last year.

Our conversations with the both the Anchorage and Alaska State Chamber of Commerce has gained their support. Enclosed is an overview providing more details on repeal of the program. In addition to repeal of statute 5 pages of regulations would be repealed.

HB 72 simplifies the process for doing business in Alaska. I look forward to working with you and request that your committee hear this bill.

Sincerely



Wilson L. Condon
Commissioner

Enclosure
97-025

HB72L&C.WPD

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
INCOME AND EXCISE AUDIT DIVISION**

NONRESIDENT AFFIDAVIT (NRA) TAX BOND PROGRAM SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED

OVERVIEW

NRA Bond program (AS 43.10.160 - 200) began in 1955 because: (1) the majority of nonresident businesses and workers had no security or property physically located in the state which could be attached to enforce the payment of state taxes and license fees; (2) these nonresidents leave the state for varying periods, making the recovery of state taxes and license fees difficult. Every corporation not registered with Alaska as their headquarters must file a sworn affidavit and obtain a bond or provide real estate, subject to tax liens, to secure potential tax liabilities. Current technologies have made it easier for the Department to locate businesses and enforce the collection of taxes without the need for the bond program.

- Alaska is the only state that still imposes a tax bonding requirement on nonresident corporations. All 49 states were contacted; a few did have such a requirement, but abolished it because of discrimination issues.
- Approximately 2,011 affidavits were filed during FY96. The department spends approximately 800 hours administering the program. This time should be refocused to other tax programs, compliance work (i.e., corporate, fish, motor fuel) to increase revenue recovery.
- If challenged, the bonding program may be deemed discriminatory under the Equal Protection or Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution. Many taxpayers have told us this over the phone; Supreme Court decisions are replete with cases challenging taxes that draw lines between in-state and out-of-state corporations.
- The program is unproductive for business and staff because it has no real benefit. Taxpayers go through the efforts of obtaining a bond, completing the forms and filing, and also make estimated tax payments. Staff must maintain a file of documents and provide telephone assistance, even though bonds are never used as a tax collection tool.
- Staff of Income and Excise Audit do not remember a case where a bond was used to pay a delinquent tax lien.
- The requirement projects Alaska business environment as unfriendly to nonresident corporations. Many taxpayers have complained over the phone that the effort to meet our requirements is excessive considering the amount of business they do in the state. Eliminating this program helps achieve the Governor's goal of showing that the State of Alaska is "open for business". The corporations subject to this program are providing jobs to Alaskans.
- In 1996, \$2,119,584 was prepaid by 239 corporations. Interest earned was approximately \$58,000. The state does get revenue from this program, but the cost and work imposed on nonresident corporations is not justified. Also revenues recovered from the increased compliance effort would offset any revenue loss.

RECOMMENDATION

Discontinue the requirement for nonresident taxpayers to post a tax bond. Corporations tend to maintain permanent offices in Alaska and honor their tax liabilities due to SEC regulations, licensing requirements and audit procedures. The Department of Labor has its own bonding requirements, and fish processors, the most volatile taxpayers, are required to provide a specific surety bond under AS 44.25.040. In addition to repealing the statute six pages of regulations, 15 AAC 10.10 - 70 would be rescinded.

TONY KNOWLES
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

HB 73
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001
(907) 465-3500
Fax (907) 465-3532

January 15, 1997

The Honorable Gail Phillips
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Phillips:

Much of my effort in advertising Alaska as "open and ready for business" includes removing unnecessary barriers to doing business in our state. This bill does just that. It discontinues our requirement that nonresident businesses file a bond or other security with the Department of Revenue -- a requirement, I must note, that makes Alaska unique among all 50 states. In this area, I'd rather join the norm than be different.

The bonding requirement, with a minimum \$1,000 bond, was enacted in 1955 to ensure the collection of state taxes and license fees from nonresident businesses which have little security or property in the state. It may have made sense back then when it was hard to find people if they abruptly closed up shop and left the state with a tax debt. But modern technology has fixed that problem.

Many taxpayers now complain the bonding and related filing requirements are excessive considering the amount of business they do in the state. Moreover, no one in the Department of Revenue can recall a case where a bond was actually used to pay a delinquent tax lien; the department has other means of ensuring that tax payments are made.

In fiscal year 1995, more than 2,000 corporations had to fill out lengthy paperwork and file these bonds. If the program is eliminated, the time the state spends on processing all these forms can be redirected toward expanded tax compliance work which would result in increased revenue to the state.

I submitted this same proposal last year to the legislature where it received much support. It passed the Senate as well as every committee of referral in the House of Representatives. The non-resident tax bond program serves only to discourage business in Alaska. It's time to take it off the books.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tony Knowles".
Tony Knowles
Governor

HB

73

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: February 21, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Finance

Date of Committee Action: 3/10/97

The LABOR AND COMMERCE Committee considered:

HB 73

HOUSE BILL NO. 73

SALMON MARKETING ASSESSMENT & ASMI

“An Act extending the termination dates of the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the salmon marketing assessment; and providing for an effective date.”

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____] the same title
[] a new title

[] additional referral to _____ Committee

[] attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): _____ (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: _____ (Dept/Date)

fiscal note(s) ASMI

[] fiscal note(s) _____

[] zero fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) DOR

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>John C. ...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Bill Hudson</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Joe ...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Tom Kotely</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Tom ...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Alex ...</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE

Tom Kotely

3/10/97

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 73

Revision Date: _____
 Title: An Act extending the termination dates of the
salmon marketing program of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
 Sponsor: HUDSON, Grussendorf, Elton
 Requester: House Special Committee on Fisheries

Department: Commerce and Economic Development
 BRU: Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
 Component: Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 393

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES		500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0
TRAVEL		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
CONTRACTUAL		3,518.0	3,918.0	4,118.0	4,118.0	4,118.0
SUPPLIES		75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
EQUIPMENT		7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING		4,200.0	4,600.0	4,800.0	4,800.0	4,800.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES						
--------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 General Fund						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
1091 Designated PR		4,200.0	4,600.0	4,800.0	4,800.0	4,800.0
TOTAL		4,200.0	4,600.0	4,800.0	4,800.0	4,800.0

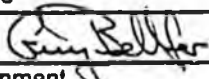
Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: \$ _____

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME		7	7	7	7	7
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The salmon marketing assessment is levied at 1% of the ex-vessel value on all salmon harvested in Alaska. The assessment generates revenue in a range from a high of \$4.8 million to a low of \$3.5 million. In FY97 the revenues are at a low point due to the decline in value of the salmon harvest in the 1996 season. The market value of the salmon harvest is anticipated to gradually increase over the next three years to \$4.8 million. Revenues for the marketing assessment are reflected in the Department of Revenue Fiscal Note. The current salmon marketing assessment (AS43.76.110) is repealed effective June 30, 1998. This legislation will extend the assessment.

Prepared by: Dwayne Peeples Phone: 465-5571
 Division: Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute Date: February 4, 1997
 Approved by Commissioner: William L. Hensley  Date: 2-6-97
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Revenue
 Title: Salmon Marketing Assessment & ASMI BRU: Revenue Operations
 Component: Income and Excise Audit
 Sponsor: REP Hudson, Grussendorf
 Requestor: (H) FSH COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 113

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES (GF)	0.0	4,200.0	4,600.0	4,800.0	4,800.0	4,800.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost \$ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

(See Attached Analysis)

Prepared by: Paul E. Dick
 Division: Income and Excise Audit
 Approved by Commissioner: Wilson L. Condon
 Agency: Revenue

Phone: 465-3691
 Date: February 4, 1997
 Date: February 4, 1997

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**Alaska Department of Revenue
Income and Excise Audit Division**

HB 73
Salmon Marketing Assessment & ASMI
February 4, 1997
Page 2 of 2

BILL ANALYSIS

Section 1 extends the sunset date for the salmon marketing tax (AS 43.76.110-130) authorized under ch. 55, SLA 1993. This bill extends the sunset date from June 30, 1998 to June 30, 2003.

Section 2 extends the sunset date for duties of the ASMI board related to salmon marketing authorized under ch. 55, SLA 1993. This bill extends the sunset date from June 30, 1999 to June 30, 2004.

Section 3 establishes an immediate effective date.

Operating Costs

Department of Revenue does not anticipate that there will be any additional costs associated with extending the sunset date for the salmon marketing tax. The department would continue administering this program with existing staff.

Revenue

This bill would not take effect until FY 1999. The department estimates that salmon marketing tax collections will be \$4.2 million in FY 1999, \$4.6 million in FY 2000 and \$4.8 million in FY 2001 through 2003. Tax collections will fluctuate depending on prices paid for salmon and the volumes harvested in a given year.



Official Business

COMMITTEE:

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

DATE: March 10, 1997

Subject of meeting:

HB 73 - SALMON MARKETING ASSESSMENT & ASMI

SIGN-IN

PLEASE PRINT!

NAME ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP) PHONE REPRESENTING DO YOU WANT TO TESTIFY?

NAME	ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)	PHONE	REPRESENTING	DO YOU WANT TO TESTIFY?
Rodger Prater	AS Box 20704 Juneau AK 99801	463-3600	ASMI	yes
Art Scheunemann	1111 W. 8 th #100 Juneau, AK. 99801	465-1560	ASMI	if necessary
Dean Tadlock	P.O. Box 21951 Juneau AK 99802	463-4970	Bristol Bay DriftNetters Assn.	yes

Alaska State Legislature

MAR 05 1997



REPRESENTATIVE BILL HUDSON

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
(907) 465-3744
Fax (907) 465-2273

COMMITTEES

CO-CHAIR
Resources Committee

MEMBER
Transportation Committee
Labor & Commerce Committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Norm Rokeberg, Chair
House Labor and Commerce Committee

FROM: Representative Bill Hudson *Bill*

SUBJECT: HB 73 Hearing Request

DATE: March 4, 1997

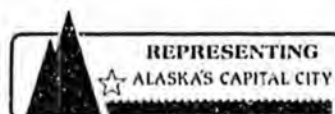
HC

I respectfully request that the Finance Committee schedule a hearing to review HB 73, "An Act extending the termination dates of the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the marketing assessment; and providing for an effective date."

HB 73, if enacted, would extend the current 1% domestic salmon marketing assessment when the law will sunset on June 30, 1998. Additionally, enactment of HB 73 would authorize Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) to continue to expend those revenues on salmon marketing programs.

Statistics show that ASMI's domestic salmon marketing program is paying off in more sales in the Lower 48. At a time when we are experiencing record runs and catches, as well as record low prices, it is especially important to increase our markets by extending the 1% assessment thereby allowing industry to fund the proven ASMI marketing programs.

Thank you for your consideration.



Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE BILL HUDSON

COMMITTEES

CO-CHAIR
Resources Committee

MEMBER
Transportation Committee
Labor & Commerce Committee



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
(907) 465-3744
Fax (907) 465-2273

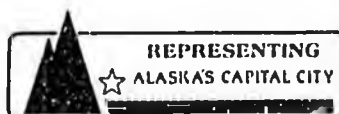
SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 73, "An Act extending the termination dates of the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the salmon marketing assessment; and providing for an effective date."

HB 73, if enacted, would extend the current 1% domestic salmon marketing assessment when the law will sunset on June 30, 1998. Additionally, enactment of HB 73 would authorize Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) to continue to expend those revenues on salmon marketing programs.

In 1981, seafood processors elected to tax themselves in order to form a single marketing voice for Alaska seafood. Each processor who purchases at least \$50,000 of seafood products in Alaska pays a .3% marketing assessment. From 1981-1993 this tax, along with the state's general fund appropriations were the basis for ASMI's domestic market funding. As marketing pressure grew from the heavily subsidized farmed salmon industry, it became apparent that Alaska needed to increase its domestic marketing efforts. In 1993, in order to provide additional funding for this effort, a 1% salmon marketing tax was enacted by the legislature, stipulating that limited entry permit holders shall pay a market tax at the rate of 1% of the value of salmon that is either removed from the state or transferred to a buyer within the state. Current law will be repealed on June 30, 1998 unless legislation is passed to extend the tax.

ASMI's domestic salmon marketing program is paying off in more sales in the Lower 48. Salmon consumption has increased 27% nationwide according to National Marine Fisheries Service. Salmon orders by diners in over 900 restaurants increased almost 60% in 1995 compared to 1994. Additionally, sales in grocery stores increased significantly from 1995 to 1996. At a time when Alaska salmon harvests are at all time highs, and foreign produced salmon are threatening Alaska's traditional markets, it is especially important to increase our markets. Alaska salmon prices are a product of supply, demand and consistency in marketing. HB 73 will enable harvesters to continue underwriting this valuable marketing program.



LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

MEMORANDUM

January 22, 1997

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary of HB 73; An Act extending the termination dates of the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the salmon marketing assessment. (HB 73)

TO: Representative Bill Hudson

FROM: George Utermohle *GU*
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of HB 73; An Act extending the termination dates of the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the salmon marketing assessment.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill is not an authoritative interpretation of the bill. The bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1 of the bill amends sec. 9, ch. 55, SLA 1993 in order to provide that the salmon marketing assessment established by AS 43.76.110 - 43.76.130 is not repealed until June 30, 2003.

Section 2 of the bill amends sec. 10, ch. 55, SLA 1993 in order to provide that the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) under AS 16.51.100(7)-(9) are not repealed until June 30, 2004. The salmon marketing assessment provides revenue to offset the cost of the salmon marketing programs of ASMI.

Section 3 of the bill provides that the bill takes effect immediately.

GU:pl
97-019.plm



The Tax:

- The Salmon Marketing Tax legislation (Chapter 76, Sec. 43.76.110) was enacted July 1, 1993, and requires that salmon permit holders pay a salmon marketing tax at the rate of 1% of the value of salmon that the person removes from the state or transfers to a buyer in the state. The tax will be repealed June 30, 1998 unless it is extended.
- Representative Bill Hudson has introduced House Bill No. 73 that will extend the 1% salmon tax an additional five years until June 30, 2003.

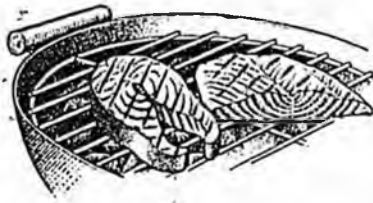
Changes the tax brought to the ASMI organization:

- The number of harvesters on the Board of Directors changed from five to twelve. ASMI's board has 12 processors, 12 harvesters, and one public member.
- A seven member salmon marketing committee (4 harvesters, 3 processors) was established to assist and advise the board in administering the salmon marketing program funded through the tax.
- The Salmon Market Bulletin was established by ASMI and contracted to the University of Alaska to collect, organize, distribute and make available to the public information on salmon prices and market conditions.
- ASMI cooperates with other fishing, seafood and state/federal entities on new value-added salmon products.

The increase in funds for salmon marketing enabled ASMI to:

- Move 10.7 million pounds of Alaska salmon from the summer of 1995 to the fall of 1996 as a result of ASMI store promotions
- Contract with three marketing representatives to cover the midwest, central south and southwest, south and southeast regions of the United States, who:
 - Establish relationships between ASMI/Alaska salmon and the major retail chains
 - "Sell in" ASMI's customized salmon promotions and set up in-store demonstrations
 - Keep Alaska seafood in front of seafood buyers
 - Provide ASMI's educational literature (recipes, quality guidelines, fact sheets on different species, etc.)
- Increase the sales of canned salmon by 7% through in-store demonstrations and ASMI programs.
- Bring a group of five major seafood purchasers from national grocery store chains to Alaska to see the catching and processing of salmon for themselves.
- Hire ASMI's first Foodservice Program Director in March 1995 to work exclusively with the nation's restaurants, hotels, and non-commercial buyers (company cafeterias, university cafeterias, care centers).
- Through ASMI foodservice promotions, 5 million pounds of Alaska seafood were sold in restaurants and hotels around the country in FY96. Salmon is always the "lead item" in the promotions.
- Train the chefs and product development executives from 24 restaurant chains, 4 major foodservice distributors and the editors from 6 food magazines at ASMI seafood training seminars. Through them, ASMI has been able to influence the seafood purchasing in 11,242 restaurants with sales of over \$16 billion.
- Send 156 fishers from all gear types and regions into grocery stores in cities in the midwest, south, southeast and northeast to do in-store demonstrations of wild Alaska salmon. Over 3 million pounds of seafood were sold in one season, and stores routinely sold out of product whenever the fishers were used.

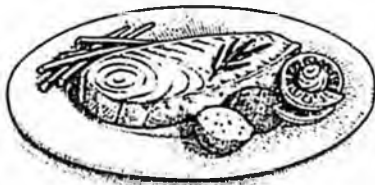
For more information, please call ASMI at 907-465-5560 or 1-800-278-2903.



ASMI'S U.S. MARKETING PROGRAMS FACT SHEET
Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute

THE ASMI RETAIL MARKETING PROGRAM:

- Increases awareness and trial usage of Alaska seafood products.
- Develops distribution and brand (Alaska) identity programs for Alaska seafood at the wholesale/distributor, retail and consumer levels. "Buy Alaska salmon!"
- Jointly funds newspaper ads for Alaska seafood products with grocery store chains during key sales periods: Fall/National Seafood Month, Spring/Lent, Summer/fresh salmon, and other time periods as the budget allows. Salmon must be the lead item in the ads.
- Through extensive research, identifies key retail and consumer obstacles to the purchase, usage and distribution of Alaska seafood products and develops strategies to successfully overcome these obstacles.



THE ASMI FOODSERVICE PROGRAM:

- Targets growing segments of the foodservice industry with the greatest potential for Alaska seafood usage (commercial chain restaurants, hotel chains, foodservice management firms).
- Increases sales of Alaska seafood throughout the year by obtaining promotions and permanent menu placements in targeted, high-volume foodservice chains. For example, Denny's menus now have the word "Alaska" with its salmon dinners.
- Builds and strengthens the Alaska brand to pre-empt further competition from farm-raised products (i.e., "Wild Alaska Salmon", "Natural Salmon from Alaska", "pristine waters of Alaska").
- Establishes a leadership position for ASMI in the areas of seafood education and promotions with the goal of building brand loyalty within the foodservice marketplace.
- Communicates promotion results to the industry.
- Encourages the use of new value-added salmon products in the nation's foodservice industry.



January 21, 1997

The Honorable Bill Hudson
Alaska House of Representatives
Room 108 State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 998011182

JAN 27 1997

Dear Representative Hudson:

Attached are the following resolutions passed for submission to the Alaska State Legislature by the Alaska Municipal League at its recent annual meeting:

- **Resolution 97-01**, Urging the Adoption of the "Safe Communities" Program and Urging Support of Revenue Sharing Programs for Municipalities.
- **Resolution 97-02**, Urging Legislative Action on a Solution for Title 47.
- **Resolution 97-03**, Urging Full Support for the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) Program.
- **Resolution 97-04**, Supporting Passage of a Bill Increasing State Taxes on Tobacco products.
- **Resolution 97-06**, In Support of Full Funding for the University of Alaska for Fiscal Year 1998.
- **Resolution 97-07**, Supporting Adequate Funding for Each Extended Campus of the University of Alaska.
- **Resolution 97-08**, Urging the Legislature and Governor to Support a Statutory Change Allowing the Department of Revenue to Collect Alcohol Use Taxes on Behalf of "Damp" Communities.
- **Resolution 97-09**, Supporting the Alaska State Waters Cod Fishing Program.
- **Resolution 97-10**, Urging the State of Alaska to Increase Salmon Marketing Efforts.
- **Resolution 97-11**, Supporting Legislation to provide for the Conveyance of isolated Tracts of State Land to Boroughs and Unified Municipalities.
- **Resolution 97-12**, Urging Governor Knowles and the Legislature of the State of Alaska to Support the Earliest Possible Development of an Economically Viable Alaskan North Slope Gas Export Project.
- **Resolution 97-14**, Requesting the Governor, Legislature, and the Alaska State Department of Natural Resources to Continue Adjudication of Water Rights, Continue as the Custodian of the Program, and to Continue Maintenance of the Historical Water Rights Data Base.
- **Resolution 97-15**, Supporting Changes to the Power Cost Equalization Program.

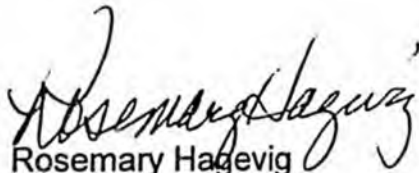
January 22, 1997
Page two

- **Resolution 97-15**, Supporting Changes to the Power Cost Equalization Program.
- **Resolution 97-17**, Urging Full Support of the Alaska Marine Highway Operation and Continued Progress Toward Construction of the Ocean Class Vessel.
- **Resolution 97-18**, Urging the State of Alaska to Develop a State Highway System.

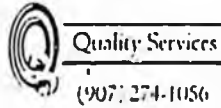
I hope we can count on your support on these issues; I assure you that members of the Alaska Municipal League are ready to help in any way we can. If you have questions, you may contact me directly at 364-2154 or through the Alaska Municipal League at 586-1325.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Rosemary Hagevig
President

Enclosure as stated



Date NOV 29 1996

Ketchikan
Daily News

Client No. 228

Editorial

Encourage innovation

228 501

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute says its salmon promotion is paying off in more sales in the Lower 48.

Salmon consumption has increased 27 percent nationwide, according to National Marine Fisheries Service.

Salmon orders by diners in 900 restaurants and hotels increased almost 60 percent in 1995 compared to 1994.

NMFS also says more fish sold in grocery stores from summer of 1995 to this past summer.

That's good news and points to the value of thoughtful promotion of Alaska products.

The newest marketing effort is paid for with a 1 percent tax of fish sold to processors.

We hope ASMI's success discourages lawmakers from cutting the institute's budget. Funding should be continued, perhaps expanded, to encourage ASMI to extend its marketing of other Alaska seafoods. Alaska's high-quality pollock, specialty seafoods and shellfish would satisfy domestic consumers who want healthful eating.

Efforts to make products from fish, such as salmon ham and surimi and fish sticks from pollock, should be encouraged and new products tested.

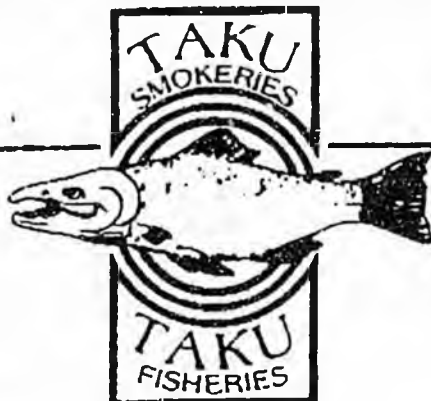
ASMI's promotion has been innovative, including sending Alaska fishermen to Midwest markets. That look at Alaskans has increased salmon consumption there.

It's especially important to market the bumper crops of salmon Alaska fishermen are harvesting. The abundance makes prices drop, but if more fish is sold, there's still a chance to make profit. The healthy aspects, as well as its superior taste, are natural qualities to market.

Alaska needs to capitalize on its wild salmon population. Other countries are focusing on farmed salmon, good enough in that category, but not as tasty as the wild Alaska stocks.

We are encouraged by ASMI's efforts and think its continued success should be supported.

Representative Bill Hudson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182



February 4, 1997

via fax @ 465-2273

Dear Representative Hudson,

I would like to thank you for introducing HB 73, "An Act extending the termination of the salmon marketing programs of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute and the marketing assessment, and providing for an effective date." I strongly support the passage of this Bill. Please feel free to use my letter as public testimony.

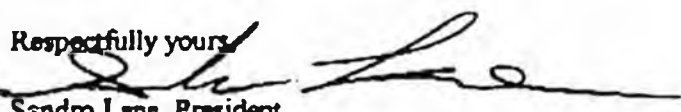
In light of competition from the farmed salmon industry, Alaska's Salmon industry has, at least on the short term, lost much ground. We can accept this and do nothing about it, or, we can get smart and attempt to design marketing programs to help us compete in this rapidly evolving marketplace. This second option takes a bit of money as well as a unified and organized effort, like ASMI, to take the lead role.

The ASMI annual budget is over \$10,000,000. Processors make the largest contribution (approximately 3.7M) to this budget with their .03% assessment on the value of all fishery resources purchased. Fishermen contribute slightly less, approximately 3.4M, with their 1% assessment on salmon. The Federal government matches 6 to 1 the \$550,000 appropriated by the State Legislature.

We need ASMI now more than we did 10 years ago when there were very few farmed fish on the market and Alaska's salmon was "king". This is not the case today. We are now entering the "era of ASMI". We have invested in ASMI for over fifteen years, and ASMI, through its successes and failures, has learned a lot about marketing salmon. While global salmon supply has doubled so has salmon consumption and much of this growth in consumption can be directly attributed to ASMI's marketing efforts. It is important now that the State show unity with the industry and continue its support of the ASMI program.

I need not emphasize the importance of this industry on the Alaskan economy. It would be a disaster to allow legislators, who lack in understanding of the huge impacts of this industry, dictate policy which would permanently alter the wild salmon industries' ability to compete. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully yours,


Sandro Lane, President
Taku Smokeries

550 South Franklin Street
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 463-4617

SOUTHWEST ALASKA

MUNICIPAL
CONFERENCE



3300 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 203
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone (907) 562-7380
Fax (907) 562-0438
Email: swamc@alaska.net

October 2, 1996

Representative Alan Austerman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Austerman:

The Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) is a regional membership organization representing over 130 member communities and businesses in Southwest Alaska. We are concerned about many issues, including economic development, fisheries management, tourism, transportation, small business development, education, and provision of adequate services to the communities in our region.

Our mission is to advance the collective interests of Southwest Alaska people, businesses, and communities and help promote economic opportunities to improve the quality of life and influence long-term, responsible development. During our 1996 Fall Meeting in Dillingham the enclosed resolutions concerning key statewide and regional issues were passed.

Here is the list of resolutions and their subject matter, with complete copies enclosed:

RESOLUTION 96-15 A resolution regarding the use of lands on Adak.

RESOLUTION 96-16 A resolution supporting changes to the Power Cost Equalization Program.

RESOLUTION 96-17 A resolution urging the adoption of the "Safe Communities" Program and urging support of revenue sharing programs for municipalities.

RESOLUTION 96-18 A resolution in support of full funding for the University of Alaska for Fiscal Year 1998.

RESOLUTION 96-19 A resolution urging full support of the Alaska Marine Highway operation and continues progress toward the construction of the ocean class vessel.

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RESOLUTION 96-20 A resolution urging full support for the Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR) Program.

RESOLUTION 96-21 A resolution urging legislative action on a solution for Title 47.

RESOLUTION 96-22 A resolution supporting the State of Alaska state waters cod fishing program.

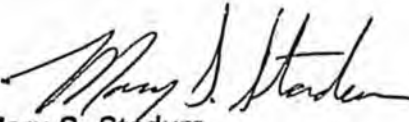
RESOLUTION 96-23 A resolution requesting the development of a Southwest Alaska Regional Transportation Plan.

RESOLUTION 96-24 A resolution urging the State of Alaska to develop a State Highway System.

RESOLUTION 96-25 A resolution urging the State of Alaska to increase salmon marketing efforts.

We encourage you to give these issues serious consideration. The economies and health of rural and urban Alaska are interdependent. A strong, healthy, rural Alaska means a strong, healthy Alaska statewide. Thank you for consideration of our views. Should you have any questions about these resolutions, please contact me at 562-7380. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Mary S. Stadum
Executive Director

Enclosures