

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1999-2000 8672

9949 HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE

April 1, 2000

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) supports HB 356, the Pesticide Right-to-Know bill, introduced by House Representative Sharon Cissna, although requests technical and substantive changes.

ACAT's mission is to protect human health and the environment from the toxic effects of contaminants. ACAT works to achieve environmental justice for Alaska's rural communities that depend on their environment and the subsistence resources it provides, to ensure responsible cleanup of contaminated sites, and to empower community involvement in cleanup decisions. In addition, ACAT strives to stop the production, proliferation, and release of toxic chemicals and works to enhance public access to information about toxics.

#### Need for Pesticide Use Tracking

Alaska needs a pesticide use tracking law because there is no reliable information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts. Pesticides, poisons intended to kill unwanted organisms, cannot distinguish between target and non-target species and appear in the body tissues of nearly all living things. Pesticide exposure is widespread as they are found in our food, homes, public buildings, restaurants, parks, schools, air and water, usually without our knowledge or consent. For example, the Anchorage School District had been applying hazardous pesticides without the knowledge or consent of teachers, parents, or students. Due to the successful work of ACAT with the teachers, parents and students, in February 2000, the Anchorage School Board adopted a least-toxic pest management policy, including right to know provisions. The following points highlight why a pesticide use tracking law is necessary.

#### *The Basic Right to Know Principle*

People are entitled to have information about their toxic exposures so they can evaluate their own risk and take whatever protective actions they deem necessary.

#### *Public and Children's Health Protection*

Pesticides are associated with a range of health problems, ranging from nausea to cancers and birth defects. Children, who are more vulnerable than adults to the health threats posed by pesticides, have been subject to an alarming rise in childhood cancers and diseases. Without accurate information on the types and amounts of pesticides to which people are exposed, health researchers and public officials find it difficult to understand the relationship between pesticide exposure and illness. Thus, the American Medical Association urged the government to "support improved reporting systems for pesticide usage and pesticide-related illnesses."

#### *Water Quality Protection*

Information from other states shows that pesticides often make their way into surface and ground water. In the first phase of a nationwide sampling effort, the U.S. Geological Survey found that over 95% of river and stream samples, as well as over 50% of well samples contained at least one pesticide, with many samples containing multiple pesticides. Location-specific information on pesticide use will help identify waterbodies at risk of contamination, which can be used in planning to protect water quality.

#### *Fish and Wildlife Protection*

Many pesticides are especially harmful to birds, fish, beneficial insects and other sensitive species, accumulating in their tissues and organs. In June 1999 in Sitka, over twenty ravens were poisoned from exposure to organophosphate pesticides such as Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos, used to control lawn insects. Pesticide use data can help track effects on fish, wildlife, and their habitats, leading to protective restrictions or changes in use patterns.

#### *Subsistence Foods Protection*

Pesticides may be affecting subsistence users because the fish, wildlife, and plants they eat could be contaminated. Pesticide use locations can be mapped with data on harvest areas so subsistence users can choose where to harvest subsistence foods to limit their contaminant exposure.

#### *Agricultural/Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Research*

In addition to their hazards, pesticides are an expensive burden on farmers' budgets. Reliable use data is essential for quantifying pesticide efficacy, understanding the true costs and consequences of pesticide use (e.g., secondary pests, resistance), and developing safer and more economical alternatives, including integrated pest management (IPM) approaches.

#### Changes Regarding Pesticide Tracking System

Section 3 subsection (b) of HB 356 requires all licensed "custom, commercial, and contract pesticide applicators" to report information regarding their use of pesticides to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). While we support the creation of a pesticide use tracking system, we urge the Committee to make the reporting requirement apply to all pesticide applicators, including use by the government, agriculture, and households. In addition, the word "shall" should be substituted for "may" in the third sentence of subsection (a), requiring the DEC to establish regulations for submission and dissemination of data for the tracking system. The only way to create an accurate picture of pesticide use and exposure is with complete information provided by all pesticide applicators, made readily available to the public.

#### Changes Regarding Registration Fees

The bill also provides for registration fees for each pesticide label registered for use in Alaska. ACAT supports the charging of such fees, however, urges the Committee to substitute the word "shall" for "may" in Section 1 subsection (e). Such a change would require the DEC to charge registration fees, ensuring annual income from pesticide label registrations. Alaska is the only state that does not require such registration fees, generally paid by pesticide manufacturers in other states. In addition, ACAT supports the establishment of a license fee as represented in Section 2.

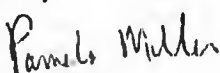
#### Other Changes

In addition, in Section 2 subsection (b), the Committee should substitute the word "shall" for "may" in the first sentence. This change would require the DEC to regulate the licensing of restricted-use pesticide applicators and custom, commercial and contract applicators.

ACAT supports the imposition of civil penalties for applicators who fail to comply with the reporting requirement established in Section 3. However, we request the addition of a citizen suit provision such as exists in the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, allowing lawsuits to be filed for non-compliance with the reporting requirement.

Importantly, HB 356 provides for the collection and dissemination of information about pesticide use by certain applicators in Alaska. Such information is the first step to enhance public access to information about toxics and protect Alaskans from the harmful effects of pesticides. ACAT, however, urges the Committee to strengthen the areas of the bill discussed above to protect human health and the environment from the toxic effects of pesticides. Please contact our office for additional information about the hazards of pesticides. Thank you for your careful consideration of the merits of this bill.

Sincerely,

  
Pamela Miller

## PESTICIDE USE IN ALASKA

Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) has begun attempting to collect information about pesticide use in Alaska. This is not an easy task as the information is not readily available and must be systematically collected from all the possible pesticide users. Much of the information collected thus far regards use by different sectors of state and local governments. Such information was available under public record laws. Public record requests produced varying results because of different record keeping systems within the institutions contacted – some agencies and organizations maintain comprehensive records about pesticide application and some keep nothing at all or note only that an exterminator visited on a specific date.

Information about private pesticide use – for example, in restaurants, supermarkets and hospitals - is not available unless the applicator voluntarily discloses the information. Thus, it is very difficult to access information about private pesticide use.

It is virtually impossible for the average citizen to access information about pesticide use and exposure in Alaska in an expedient and comprehensive manner. Nobody has the time or energy to systematically contact all possible users of pesticides to create a "big picture" perspective on pesticide use. A pesticide use tracking system that is readily available to the public would enable people to evaluate their own risks to minimize their exposure to toxic chemicals.

The following information summarizes some of the information received from our preliminary investigation.

### Where are pesticides used in Alaska?

Pesticide use in Alaska is widespread, occurring in many places frequented in daily life in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Palmer, and Kenai. Pesticides are applied in homes and yards, restaurants, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, public buildings, airports, parks, gardens, greenhouses, universities, and farms.

### What are the target organisms?

Pesticides are applied to kill spiders, silverfish, carpenter ants, aphids, sawtooth grain beetles, swallow bugs, homets, midges, flies, mealy bugs, weevils, European crane flies, spruce bark beetles, roaches, rodents, and weeds.

What type of pesticides are applied? Dozens of different pesticides are used in Alaska. Some commonly applied pesticides are: Chlorpyrifos (Dursban, Lorsban, Engage), Cyfluthrin (Tempo), Diazanone (Knox-Out), Glyphosate (Roundup). (The chemical name is listed first and trade name follows in parenthesis.)

### What health effects are associated with pesticides used in Alaska?

**Chlorpyrifos (Dursban, Lorsban, Engage)** is a broad spectrum organophosphate insecticide, used in homes and buildings for control of termites, cockroaches, and fleas, and also agriculturally and in greenhouses. It is the most widely used insecticide in the United States. Total use is estimated at almost 30 million pounds per year. Chlorpyrifos affects the nervous system by

## BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT PESTICIDES

### What is a Pesticide?

By law, a pesticide is "any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest." This definition includes insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, and antimicrobials as well as plant growth regulators, defoliants and dessicants. The National Research Council has stated that pesticides are "perhaps the only toxic substances that are purposefully applied to the environment." While pesticides may be effective at killing or damaging pests, they do not solve pest problems because they do not eradicate the factors that have allowed the pest to thrive.

### Does Government Registration Mean Pesticides Are Safe?

Legally, pesticides are supposed to be regulated so that they do not cause "unreasonable adverse effects" and so that there is "a reasonable certainty that no harm will result" from their use. But this does not mean that pesticides are safe by a common-sense definition. Registered pesticides are known to cause cancer, genetic damage, miscarriages, birth defects, liver and kidney damage, and cataracts. In addition, pesticide regulation is problematic. Many pesticides used today were registered using old test protocols and have not been reevaluated under current standards. Pesticide testing is performed or paid for by pesticide manufacturers, setting up a conflict of interest. Many tests are only "conditionally required" and are often waived. Finally, tests ignore the multiple pesticides to which people are regularly exposed because they only look at one pesticide at a time. Considering the above information, pesticides are not safe.

### Are Pesticides Hazardous to Our Health?

As pesticides are chemicals designed to kill or harm pests, it is not surprising that they can damage human health. Pesticides can cause headaches, nausea, cancer and death, damage the nervous system, disrupt our hormone and immune systems, affect reproduction, and burn eyes and skin. Pesticides with significant health hazards are applied in startling quantities. For example, just looking at the 26 most widely used pesticides, Americans annually apply about 380 million pounds of pesticides classified by the EPA as carcinogens. About 650 million pounds of pesticides that cause reproductive problems are used annually, with hundreds of millions of applications in our homes, on our lawns, and in our gardens.

### Do Pesticides Pose Special Hazards to Children?

Research shows that pesticides are particularly hazardous for children. Children eat more pesticides on their food than adults because of their eating patterns and their body size. The National Research Council estimated that every day, over 100,000 two-year olds consume more than our government's "acceptable levels" of a common group of neurotoxic pesticides. In addition, recent research has linked a wide variety of health problems in children to their parent's exposure to pesticides, such as brain cancer, birth defects, and premature birth. Finally, children's behavior makes them more susceptible to pesticide hazards because they crawl around and climb where pesticides may be applied, put things in their mouths that contain pesticide residues, and they breathe more for their body weight than adults.

### Do Pesticides Contaminate Our Rivers, Streams, and Wells?

Pesticides are widely found in waterways throughout the United States. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has found that over 95% of river and stream samples, as well as over 50% of well samples contained at least one pesticide, and many samples contained multiple pesticides. Both urban and agricultural areas have pesticide-contaminated waterways. Although many of the pesticide concentrations measured by the USGS are relatively low, recent studies show that these pesticides are already causing health problems for humans and animals. For example, the numbers of breast cancer cases in Kentucky and low birth-weight babies in southern Iowa were high in areas with pesticide-contaminated water. Also, the USGS concluded, "[w]ithin all regions studied," the fish already "may be experiencing some degree of endocrine disruption."

# CORRECTION

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)  
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO  
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION



Rev. 6/98

Central Microfilm Services  
Department of Education & Early Development  
State of Alaska



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inhibiting an enzyme that is important in the transmission of nerve impulses. Symptoms of acute poisoning include headache, nausea, muscle twitching and convulsions. Human birth defects have been associated with exposure to chlorpyrifos products. It also affects the male reproductive system. Chlorpyrifos has caused genetic damage in human blood and lymph cells, mice spleen cells, and hamster bone marrow cells. Immune system abnormalities have been reported from people exposed to chlorpyrifos. Extremely small quantities can be lethal to birds as evidenced by the Sitka Raven kill in June 1999. It kills fish at concentrations as low as a few parts per trillion and kills a wide variety of other aquatic organisms. Chlorpyrifos contaminates air, ground water, rivers, and lakes, contaminating areas up to fifteen miles from the site of application.

**Cyfluthrin (Tempo)** is a synthetic pyrethroid that is a neurotoxin with a mode of action similar to that of the organochlorine insecticide DDT. It is used to kill unwanted insects in and around buildings, in agriculture and on ornamental plants. Acute exposures cause stinging skin, tremors, convulsions, decreased blood pressure, and labored breathing. Chronic exposure of lab animals has resulted in weight loss, kidney inflammation, vomiting, diarrhea, and a decrease in body temperature. Exposure through inhalation causes symptoms at very low doses; concentrations of as little as 150 parts per billion are enough to cause lethargy and a failure to gain weight. Cyfluthrin also appears to affect reproduction. It is highly toxic to fish and bees with just one part per billion killing some fish species. Ecosystem-level tests have shown that cyfluthrin affects many organisms in pond ecosystems, including algae, zooplankton, nematodes, insects and fish.

**Diazinon (Knox Out)** is an organophosphate insecticide, used most commonly in non-agricultural settings for lawns and home gardens to control larval stage insects. It kills insects and other animals, including humans through its effect on the nervous system. It inhibits an enzyme that is important in the transmission of nerve impulses. Symptoms of diazinon poisoning in humans include headache, nausea, and dizziness, excessive salivation, tearing, urination, defecation, blurry vision, slow heartbeat, muscle weakness, and incoordination and respiratory depression. Diazinon exposure has also caused abnormal eye movements, damage to skeletal muscles, and inflammation of the pancreas. A 1999 Seattle area investigation found concentrations of diazinon that exceeded EPA standards for aquatic life in all but one of ten streams. Other field studies of chlorpyrifos for turf and agricultural use have found concentrations in water samples that exceed levels toxic to aquatic organisms.

**Glyphosate (Roundup)** is a broad-spectrum herbicide widely used to kill unwanted plants both in agriculture and in non-agricultural landscapes. Estimated use in the United States is between 38 and 28 million pounds per year. Glyphosate-containing products are acutely toxic to animals, including humans. Symptoms include eye and skin irritation, headache, nausea, numbness, elevated blood pressure, and heart palpitations. Lab studies have found medium-term toxicity (salivary gland lesions), long-term toxicity (inflamed stomach linings), genetic damage (in human blood cells), effects on reproduction (reduced sperm counts in rats; increased frequency of abnormal sperm in rabbits), and carcinogenicity (increased frequency of liver tumors in male rats and thyroid cancer in female rats). Glyphosate has been called "extremely persistent" by the EPA.



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**Brain Injury Association of Alaska**  
**Debra M. Russell, Ph.D., CRC, CBIS**  
**1251 Muldoon Road, Suite 32**  
**Anchorage, Alaska 99504**  
**(907) 338-9800 Voice/Voice Mail**  
**(907) 338-9801 Fax/TTY**  
**(888) 945-HEAD (Toll free - Alaska only)**  
**Website: [www.alaska.net/~drussell/bia-ak](http://www.alaska.net/~drussell/bia-ak)**

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March 31, 2000

Alaska Community Action on Toxics  
135 Christensen Drive, Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 222-7714  
(907) 222-7715 Fax

Dear Alaska Community Action on Toxics,

The Brain Injury Association of Alaska wanted to support the Pesticide Right-to-Know legislation, HB 356, as I have several patients who have experienced permanent brain damage due to toxic exposures. These patients were in excellent health with no serious preexisting medical problems prior to the exposure to these chemicals. It appears that the majority of the difficulties following toxic exposure are in cognitive dysfunction (possibly resulting in a diagnosis such as chronic toxic encephalopathy) which greatly affects daily living. Despite the specific causative factors of the neurotoxic exposure, the repercussion appears to be cognitive and neurological problems that need immediate attention. However, misdiagnosis is the common problem with uncontrolled chemicals and patients often are given a psychological diagnosis when the difficulties are neurotoxic in nature.

#### History of Common Chemicals that Could Cause Brain Damage

The term "organic solvent" is a generic classification for a chemical compound or mixture used by industry to "extract, dissolve or suspend" non-water-soluble materials. Most solvents are liquids and their chemical composition may be simple, like carbon tetrachloride, or complex, like those solvents derived from petroleum. According to Dr. David Hartman (1988), author of texts on neuropsychological toxicology, all solvents can depress central nervous system activity via their anesthetic action. Many of these solvents can display symptoms from feelings of drunkenness, light-headedness, or ataxia to unconsciousness, coma, or death, depending on the solvent, the exposure time, and strength. All of my clients with toxic exposure did not have any neurological symptoms, such as memory loss or extreme weakness, until they were exposed to the chemicals. To offer an example about problems with toxic exposure, I will tell of a client who was exposed

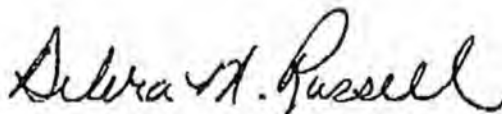
to a "pit" of chemicals that was located in the middle of their office. The analytical analysis performed by CTE Environmental Services (Anchorage) identified ten common organic compounds. My patient(s) had significant neurocognitive impairments due to this exposure. As there were many chemicals identified, I will only discuss one of the chemicals to provide a basic understanding of the possible side-effects of neurotoxic exposure.

Toluene was one of the identified chemicals and it presents itself as a clear, colorless liquid with a sweet smell. It is produced from petroleum refining, as a by-product of styrene productions, and as a by-product of coke-oven operations. Usually, industry uses it in refining gasoline, chemical manufacturing, and manufacturing of paints, lacquers, adhesive, rubber, and in some printing and leather tanning processes. Toluene is usually disposed of at hazardous waste sites as a used solvent (a substance used to dissolve other substances).

According to research, Toluene has been linked to some permanent damage to the brain, depending on exposure. Other effects from this chemical are associated with problems with speech, vision, hearing, loss of muscle control, loss of memory and balance, and reduced scores on psychological tests (Public Health Statement: Toluene, 1989). In animal studies, as in human studies, the main effect of toluene is on the nervous system. Exposure of animals to moderate and high amount of toluene also produces slightly harmful effects on the liver, kidneys, and lungs.

I hope this information will help you understand the importance of protecting people and control the possible harmful effects of chemicals, such as pesticides and other deleterious toxins. If you have any questions about our support for this bill, please contact my office.

Respectfully,



Debra M. Russell, Ph.D., CRC, CBIS  
President/CEO  
Neurocognitive Rehabilitation Psychologist  
CC: Roke Berg

March 31, 2000

To: Representative Sharon Cissna

From: Robert Gorman, Pesticide Applicator Training Coordinator  
University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension

Regarding: House Bill No. 356, amending AS 46.03

Pesticides are important tools in managing pests in a wide variety of locations. Alaska's pesticide regulations are very restrictive, significantly more stringent than the basic US Environmental Protection Agency regulations. Pesticide patterns in Alaska are not similar to the lower 48. Agriculture in Alaska is a small, struggling group of enterprises, many of which do not use pesticides. ( It is commendable that the bill sponsors have excluded the Private Applicator category of pesticide certification from the reporting requirements of this bill ). Likewise herbicides are not used along public right of ways. Pesticides are not used in public forests in Alaska and few are used on private forest lands.

Who then uses pesticides and where are they used? Until very recently it was impossible to determine that. Now that Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has the ability to require state registration of EPA approved pesticides sold in Alaska, it may be possible to track this information. As a statewide pesticide educator I note that the majority of certified pesticide applicators currently trained are using pesticides in turf and ornamental situations and structural pest management. The primary users of pesticides in Alaska, in my estimation, are commercial pesticide applicators and homeowners.

The success of House Bill No. 356, if enacted, depends on providing a simple, easily accessible reporting system. The most critical elements of the reporting system are that it include the name and EPA registration number of the pesticide used, the location of use ( preferably in Longitude / Latitude ), the total area treated ( square feet or acres or cubic feet or structure ), and the total amount of pesticide product used. A challenge in this system is to protect the privacy of the landowner while enabling analysis of pesticide databases. It is not appropriate for the general public to know who uses a pesticide on their private property safely and legally, any more than how much gasoline they use monthly or what their individual electric, natural gas or water consumption is.

While I agree in concept with this Bill, the support is in light of developing a workable compromise in determining pesticide use in Alaska. I disagree with some proponents of House Bill No. 356 who project pesticides as evil and needing to be banned. There is a great deal of misrepresentation about the uses, the hazards and the alternatives to pesticides. Pesticides are tools. Legislative and regulatory actions are welcome which enable pesticides to be used safely as part of a necessary tool kit to control pests which threaten the health and well being of Alaska's people and our living resources. These opinions are my professional views and not necessarily that of the University of Alaska.

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 21:37:20 GMT**

**From: imcool222@webtv.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Tyler Forman  
1212 East Minnezona Ave  
Phoenix, Arizona 85014

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 21:38:51 GMT**

**From: skov@econ.berkeley.edu**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

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Joshua Skov  
119 Quillen Ct. Apt. 7F  
Stanford, California 94305



**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 21:39:58 GMT**

**From: matiasek@ucsu.colorado.edu**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

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Mike Matiasek  
1060 Kent Street  
#27  
Boulder, Colorado 80303

RECEIVED  
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**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 21:40:17 GMT**

**From: jirwin@umich.edu**

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Dear Norman Rokeberg,

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In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Jeff Irwin  
317 East Ann St.  
Apt. 2  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:02:44 GMT**

**From: tina53374@aol.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

tina horowitz  
4701 pine street. m8  
philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19143

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:19:27 GMT**

**From: lenzac@juno.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Leonard Zack  
3212 se 52nd ave.  
Portland, Oregon 97206

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:20:08 GMT**

**From: jesse.schaefer@reed.edu**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, and yet Alaska does not have accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Jesse Schaefer  
Reed College mailstop 3773  
3203 SE Woodstock Blvd.  
Portland, Alaska 97202

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:21:10 GMT**

**From: keeper@xyz.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Bob Shavelson  
3780 Bartlett Street  
Homer, Alaska 99603

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000



**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:34:14 GMT**

**From: jeneric24@earthlink.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Jennifer Erwin  
1430 20th Ave. East  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35404

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:36:46 GMT**

**From: ajrut@earthlink.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Abram Rutkowski  
64351 Hickory Road  
Bremen, Indiana 46506

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 22:40:59 GMT**

**From: forests@alchemymetalnet.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Terry Bunch  
17119 W Bernardo Dr #106  
San Diego, California 92127

**Subject:** Alaska needs a Pesticides Right-to-Know bill

**Date:** Tue, 04 Apr 2000 23:12:56 GMT

**From:** loraxx@ptialaska.net

**To:** Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

There are huge amounts of pesticides in use in Alaska. The Alaska Railroad frequently plans to use Roundup on its tracks and siding plus pesticides are used in schools, parks, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, and private gardens,

Pesticides are dangerous. They have been linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 (!) pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your efforts

Mark Lutrell, Director  
P.O. Box 511  
EKPEAA  
Seward, Alaska 99664.00

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Tue, 04 Apr 2000 23:39:00 GMT**

**From: KathBarret@aol.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Kathleen Barrett  
412 Armada Road S  
Apt.106  
Venice, Florida 34285

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 00:23:07 GMT**

**From: lslepets@umich.edu**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Lisa Slepetski  
22335 Carlisle Ct.  
Novi, Michigan 48374

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000



**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 00:31:21 GMT**

**From: gts@xyz.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

This letter addresses Alaska's use of pesticides in urban and rural areas.

Because of the tremendous health problems associated with pesticides, it is mandatory that a strong pesticide right-to-know bill be passed. It is also imperative that this law have mandatory reporting requirements and heavy fines for those who fail to report.

We want fair and effective policy decisions made that will protect our water quality, public health and subsistence foods. We believe that it is our right and your responsibility to see that such a bill is passed.

Thank you for your attention to this very important issue.

George Smallwood & Trina Smallwood  
P.O. Box 3371  
Homer, Alaska 99603.00

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 01:08:26 GMT**

**From: zoundz@lvcm.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Ryan Manro  
1614 Navajo Point Place  
Henderson, Nevada 89014-2931

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 01:38:05 GMT**

**From: joshgreenfield@att.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Josh Greenfield  
5532 Netherland Ave  
Riverdale, New York 10471

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 01:47:41 GMT**

**From: cairen@earthlink.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Gary Boren  
501 Guerrero #6  
San Francisco, California 94110-1046

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 01:50:00 GMT**

**From: devgru6@aol.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Neil Bajwa  
63 Spring Valley Lane  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15238

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 02:07:27 GMT**

**From: jerm@ejourney.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

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Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Shawn Dicken  
5119 W Calhoun Rd  
Beaverton  
, Michigan 48612

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 02:21:17 GMT**

**From: dwsinnett@mac.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

D. William Sinnett  
7615 NE 359th Avenue  
Washougal, Washington 98671-8218

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000



**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 03:04:08 GMT**

**From: solicester1@hotmail.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

valerie edgin  
2343 McKinley St.  
Hollywood, Florida 33020

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 03:05:51 GMT**

**From: 142s@mail.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

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Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Beth Graham  
717 Washington Pl., Apt. 2A  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-5235

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 03:21:00 GMT

From: mnm@xyz.net

To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Michael Gracz & Michele Stenger  
P.O. Box 15391  
Fritz Creek, Alaska 99603.00

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 05:48:39 GMT**

**From: myalaska@xyz.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

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Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Michael Yourkowski  
3059 Kachemak Drive  
Homer, Alaska 99603

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 06:55:16 GMT**

**From: jellis@xyz.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

It has come my attention that Alaska is the only state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use. My concern is with the regulation of these substances and the assurance to the public that said restrictions are being followed. I see no teeth in this, no way to enforce adherence. Since there are nearly 3,000 pesticide labels registered for use in Alaska, I strongly urge you to pass a strong Right-To-Know bill that will allow us, the public, to protect our communities and ground water from contamination. I am especially concerned for children in schools where any of these products are being used in buildings or on the grounds surrounding the school. The public does have a right to protect their children, water and subsistence living style. The bill needs to address mandatory reporting for infractions and stiff fines for non-compliance, and failure to report. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please help make Alaska a healthy and safe place to live.

Jolee E. Ellis  
168 W. Bayview  
Homer, Alaska 99603.00

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 12:01:17 GMT**

**From: info@indydoc.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Angela Harris  
5940 Candlewick Drive  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46228-1041

RECEIVED

APR 05 2000

**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 13:56:56 GMT**

**From: melissa\_m\_blackman@yahoo.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

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Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Melissa Blackman  
17 Heath Street  
Apartment Two  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02145

RECEIVED  
APR 05 2000



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chairman  
Representative Andrew Halcro, Vice-Chairman  
Representative John Harris  
Representative Lisa Murkowski  
Representative Jerry Sanders  
Representative Tom Brice  
Representative Sharon Cissna



State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
Telephone: (907) 465-4954  
Fax: (907) 465-2040

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR YOUR HOUSE BILL 356 FILE



COVER SHEET

Anchorage Legislative Information Office  
Office - (907) 269-0111 Fax - (907) 269-0229

12 Pgs

To: House Labor + Commerce

Atten: Rep Rokeberg Fax: 465-2040 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: written testimony  
HB 356

Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposal of Original: \_\_\_\_\_ Discard: \_\_\_\_\_ Hold for Pickup: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ (counting cover sheet)

Transmitted by: \_\_\_\_\_



135 Christensen Drive,  
Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone 907-222-7714  
Fax 907-222-7715  
email [info@akaction.net](mailto:info@akaction.net)  
<http://www.akaction.net>

Testimony of Pamela K. Miller of Alaska Community Action on Toxics  
House Bill 356 Pesticide Right-to-Know  
Hearing of the Labor and Commerce Committee  
April 5, 2000

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee. Good afternoon. My name is Pamela K. Miller, biologist and Program Director of Alaska Community Action on Toxics, Alaska. The mission of Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) is to protect human health and the environment from the toxic effects of contaminants. We are dedicated to achieving environmental justice through collaborative work with affected communities, tribes, environmental organizations, and individual activists. We work to ensure responsible cleanup of contaminated sites and empower community involvement in cleanup decisions. We strive to stop the production, proliferation, and release of toxic chemicals, and work to enhance public access to information about toxics and to build community-action capabilities.

We strongly support HB 356 as introduced by Representative Sharon Cissna with recommendations to strengthen the bill. We believe that enactment of this bill will be an important first step in assuring worker and public right-to-know about pesticide applications in our workplaces, parks, public lands, and public buildings. It will provide necessary data for people on the job or in their communities to evaluate their own risks and take whatever protective actions they deem necessary. People with chemical injuries are particularly susceptible to the health effects of pesticide exposure.

Our support for this bill stems from our research and experience working with the Anchorage School District concerning pesticide use in schools. Our research demonstrated that the Anchorage School District used pesticides linked with serious health problems, posing a special risk to children. Teachers, parents, and students were not provided with notification about pesticide applications. A group of parents, teachers, and students worked along with ACAT for nearly a year in meetings with the District to address these problems. This work culminated in a February 2000 decision of the Anchorage School Board to implement a policy requiring notification procedures and implementation of least-toxic pest management.

We have specific recommendations that we think will strengthen and ensure protections for public health and the environment.

We propose the following amendments to CS SS HB 356:

1. Changes Regarding Registration Fees

In Section 2 (e), on page 1 line 9, the bill provides that DEC may charge a registration fee for each pesticide label registered for use in Alaska. ACAT supports the charging of such fees, however, **urges the Committee to substitute the word "shall" for "may" in Section 1.** Such a change would require the DEC to charge registration fees, ensuring annual income from pesticide label registrations. Alaska is the only state that does not require such registration fees, generally paid by pesticide manufacturers in other states.

In addition, ACAT supports the establishment of a license fee as represented in Section 3(b), lines 3-7 on page 2..

2. Changes Regarding Pesticide Tracking System

In Section 4 subsection (b), the bill allows DEC to establish regulations regarding which pesticides are subject to the reporting requirement, based in part on the frequency of pesticide application. **We strongly urge the Committee to remove this provision and add a provision requiring pesticide users to report all pesticides that are applied.** Allowing DEC to choose which pesticides require reporting will be inefficient and costly.

1. The fee system provides for the full implementation of the tracking program, so there is no economic reason not to pursue reporting of all pesticides used. (The Fiscal Note reflects that over \$514,000 would be generated from the registration and licensing fees and the expenditures would be approximately \$375,000).
2. There will be increased costs to DEC as additional pesticides will be reported
  - a. Cost of researching which pesticides to include and add later
  - b. Cost of communicating with pesticide applicators to inform them of additional pesticides to be reported
  - c. Cost of promulgating additional regulations to cover additional pesticides to be reported
3. There is concern that pesticide applicators will switch their use to non-reported pesticides to avoid having to report, thereby avoiding the reporting requirement.
4. There is concern as to how DEC will decide which pesticides should be included in the reporting requirement, especially considering it does not currently know which pesticides are being applied, in which amounts, in which locations, for which pest organisms, in what amounts, and when.
5. Allowing DEC to limit the reported pesticides would not assure that the money generated from the fees would be spent in a cost-effective manner in the time period specified in the bill.

Section 4 subsection (c) of HB 356 requires "all licensed custom, commercial, and contract pesticide applicators" to report information regarding their use of pesticides to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). While we support the creation of a pesticide use

tracking system, we urge the Committee to make the reporting requirement apply to all pesticide applicators, including use by the government, agriculture, and households.

In addition, the word "shall" should be substituted for "may" in the third sentence of Section 4 subsection (b), requiring the DEC to establish regulations for submission and dissemination of data for the tracking system. The only way to create an accurate picture of pesticide use and exposure is with complete information provided by all pesticide applicators, made readily available to the public.

Other Changes

In addition, in Section 3 subsection (b), the Committee should substitute the word "shall" for "may" in the first sentence. This change would require the DEC to regulate the licensing of restricted-use pesticide applicators and custom, commercial and contract applicators of pesticides and broadcast chemicals.

We thank you for your careful consideration of these recommendations.

## The Alaska Injured Workers Alliance

P. O. Box 101093  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
907-278-3661

4/5/00

SOA  
Labor & Commerce Committee  
P. O. Box 20149  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Labor & Commerce Committee,

I have come to speak to you today regarding HB 356. Policies currently used must be strengthened. Basic Right to Know policies regarding pesticides, their use, and effects are needed so that the public at large and workers can know their health is protected.

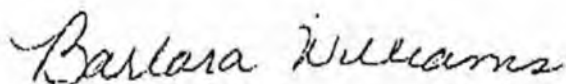
In certain cases where workers have chemical sensitivity issues this information can avoid potential serious illness or even death. One case in point that was recently discussed in front of this committee was a worker in Barrow who was working in an x-ray lab. She was exposed to x-ray developers such as xylene as well as a common drain cleaner called "Mule Kick" The toxic affects on this worker increased her risk of sensitivity to such toxins as pesticides. She thought that her workplace was a safe one. But it wasn't. Now she risks being exposed in a government, public, or even her own apartment complex could be potentially deadly for her. Just one exposure. That's is why the public at large and workers must be educated and informed of what toxic materials exist in our own environments - I ← must point out pesticides are currently used @ her complex & there is no notice to tenants.

People with and without exposure issues should be informed that potential hazards exist in their homes, workplaces. Public Health protection must be supported by information that is easily and publicly accessible to ensure citizens better understand exposure and illness related issues. Proper enforcement is also key to this program being effective. Penalties are necessary for non-compliance and to administer programs properly so that all parties know what to expect and where information may be accessed. It also helps those who are exposed have access to information on qualities, side effects, types and amounts of pesticides to better understand and to acquire appropriate medical attention.

We already have many workers are unknowingly exposed to pesticides and other toxins in the workplace only to receive no benefits to support themselves or obtain proper medical care. Prevention from exposure is the most important action we can take. Ensuring that people have the right to know about toxic chemicals in their environment or moving through their area is the first step towards making prevention successful. Please strengthen this bill in enforcement of fees and legal issues to administer such a program and see that the public is adequately informed as to their rights

Thank you for your time and attention to this most important issue.

Sincerely,



Barbara Williams  
Vice President  
Alaska Injured Workers Alliance





# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE LABOR + COMMERCE

Committee on SSH3 356, dated 4/5/2000  
bill # / subject committee name

I BELIEVE THAT THIS BILL WOULD PROVIDE VERY IMPORTANT PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS AT MINIMAL COST TO THE PUBLIC. I BELIEVE THAT THE FEES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ARE REASONABLE.

I URGE YOU TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL.

Signed: Gerald R. Brookman GERALD R. BROOKMAN  
Testifier

MYSELF  
Representing (optional)

715 MUIR AVENUE, KENAI, ALASKA 99611  
Address

283-9329  
Phone number

RECEIVED  
APR 06 2000**Subject: HB 356****Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 14:58:12 PDT****From: "Stacey Marz" <stacey\_marz@hotmail.com>****To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Representative Rokeberg,

I am writing regarding HB 356. I request that you support pesticide use tracking and registration and licensing fees. The bill would require only commercial pesticide applicators to report their pesticide use to the Department of Environmental Conservation. I urge the committee to strengthen this bill by requiring reporting of all pesticide use by government, agriculture, and households.

Alaska needs to track pesticide use because there is no reliable information which pesticides are being used, where, when and in what amounts in the state. Some places that pesticides are commonly used in Alaska are: homes and yards, restaurants, supermarkets, parks, public buildings, nursing homes, greenhouses, farms, and universities. It is impossible for the average citizen to access information about pesticide use in Alaska as this information does not exist. People have the right to know about their exposure to contaminants so they can evaluate their own risks and decide how best protect themselves.

There are numerous health effects from pesticide exposure ranging from headaches and nausea to cancer and birth defects. Workers are vulnerable because they are often exposed without their knowledge or consent when they enter people's homes and public buildings to work and provide services.

Alaska is the only state that does not charge registration fees for pesticide labels. The pesticide manufacturers pay fees for each label registered in other states. This fee would bring in a significant amount of income to fund the tracking program. In addition, I support the licensing fee provision.

Because the bill only requires reporting by commercial applicators, use by the government, agriculture and households would not be included. The only way to create an accurate picture of pesticide use and exposure is with complete information provided by all pesticide applicators, made readily available to the public.

Thank you for considering this much needed bill.

Stacey Marz  
10301 Stroganof Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
(907) 346-3945

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RECEIVED  
APR 06 2000

**Subject:** Pesticide use reporting

**Date:** Wed, 5 Apr 2000 15:03:21 -0700

**From:** "English, Paul (DHS-EHIB)" <PEnglish@dhs.ca.gov>

**To:** "representative\_norman\_rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legi

Paul English, PhD  
Environmental Health Investigations Branch  
California Department of Health Services  
1515 Clay St., Suite 1700  
Oakland, CA 94612  
Phone: (510) 622-4508  
Fax: (510) 622-4505  
penglish@dhs.ca.gov <<mailto:penglish@dhs.ca.gov>>  
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/deodc/ehib>

-----Original Message-----

**From:** English, Paul (DHS-EHIB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 05, 2000 2:00 PM  
**To:** 'representative\_norm\_rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us';  
'janet\_seitz@legis.state.ak.us'  
**Cc:** Kreutzer, Rick (DHS-EHIB)  
**Subject:**

Representative Norm Rokeberg  
State of Alaska

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

I am an epidemiologist currently employed by the California Department of Health Services. I was scheduled to testify today before your committee regarding the establishment of a pesticide use reporting system in Alaska. Unfortunately, due to the time change of your hearing, I will not be able to participate, but I would like to submit these comments.

The California Department of Health Services has been using data from the Pesticide Use Report data system for application in environmental health studies for several years. Commercial agricultural users and professional applicators are required by law in California to report all pesticide applications to county agricultural commissioners, who in turn report the data to the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, who maintains the data. When incorporated into our geographical information systems (GIS), we have found the data extremely useful in mapping the distribution of specific applications of pesticides which may be related to health outcomes. Mapping these applications along with locations of schools and other locations where children reside have given the U.S. EPA important information on where to conduct environmental and biological sampling of children who may be exposed to pesticides. Through grants from the National Institutes of Health, we are also using this data with GIS to explore hypotheses related to pesticide exposures and the incidence of adverse reproductive outcomes and childhood cancers.

I therefore support the development of a similar pesticide reporting system in Alaska, and feel that it would be a valuable addition to environmental health surveillance activities in your state. As interest in investigating potential pesticide exposures increases, the availability of reliable geographic data on pesticide applications is paramount. The establishment of an accurate as possible pesticide reporting system is necessary to continue to monitor environmental trends with high relevance to public health concerns.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information on our experiences in California.

Sincerely,

Paul B. English, PhD, MPH  
Chief  
Reproductive Epidemiology Section  
Environmental Health Investigations Branch

c.c. Richard Kreutzer, Chief  
Environmental Health Investigations Branch

Paul English, PhD  
Environmental Health Investigations Branch  
California Department of Health Services  
1515 Clay St., Suite 1700  
Oakland, CA 94612  
Phone: (510) 622-4508  
Fax: (510) 622-4505  
[perglis@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:perglis@dhs.ca.gov) <<mailto:perglis@dhs.ca.gov>>  
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/deodc/ehib> <<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/deodc/ehib>>

**Subject: Please Support the Pesticide Right-to-Know Bill, SSHB 356**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 09:31:38 -0800**

**From: Randy Carter <jrc@mailhost.alaska.net>**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

**CC: Representative\_Andrew\_Halcro@legis.state.ak.us,**

**Representative\_John\_Harris@legis.state.ak.us,**

**Representative\_Lisa\_Murkowski@legis.state.ak.us,**

**Representative\_Jerry\_Sanders@legis.state.ak.us, Representative\_Tom\_Brice@legis.state.ak.us,**

**Representative\_Sharon\_Cissna@legis.state.ak.us, Janet\_Seitz@legis.state.ak.us**

RECEIVED  
APR 06 2000

Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chair  
House Labor & Commerce Committee  
April 5, 1999

I am writing to ask that you support SSHB 356, the Pesticide Right-to-Know bill recently introduced by Representative Sharon Cissna.

In the U.S., pesticide manufacturers are permitted to release new products on the market as long as no one has proven they aren't safe. We're beginning to see the magnitude of the mistake we've made in allowing these synthetic chemicals to be produced and dispersed throughout our air, water, soil and foods when their long-term effects on people, fish & wildlife have never been tested. Scientists are just beginning to understand the fates of pesticides and the health risks they pose to all of us, especially children. The list of pesticides that are known or suspected carcinogens and endocrine disrupters continues to grow. The amount and variety of pesticides we are exposed to continues to skyrocket. We and the world we inhabit are, in effect, guinea pigs in a massive ongoing experiment with little recourse if things go wrong.

Rep. Cissna's bill is a positive first step in remedying the situation at the state level. Because of the potential threat to our health that the approximately 3000 toxic pesticides registered for use in Alaska pose, we have a right-to-know about the kinds & amounts that are being used, and when & where we are being exposed to them, in our communities, work places and schools. This is a fundamental right that should be enshrined in law. Everyone has the right-to-know about toxic exposures so they can evaluate their own risk and take whatever protective steps they believe to be necessary.

SSHB 356 will make detailed information available that will also help to: protect public health, safeguard our children's future, protect our water, fish & wildlife, create healthy workplaces, and make better decisions about controlling pests.

I am concerned that certain areas of the bill are not comprehensive enough.

The reporting requirement applies to "custom, commercial or contract" applicators. This means that households, government and agricultural users are not required to report pesticide applications that they perform themselves. Surveys suggest that these applications represent a substantial portion of the whole. For example, the EPA reports that agriculture accounted for an estimated 77% of U.S. pesticide use in 1995 and a nationwide survey of home and garden use done by the EPA in 1992 indicates that about 76% of households used insecticides and an estimated 85% had at least one pesticide in storage. It is critical to get a complete picture of exposure to pesticides in the state and not a just partial picture. If the reporting requirement applies only to "custom, commercial or contract" applications, we may be viewing just the "tip of

the iceberg." Also, to verify accuracy of reporting, collection of information on retail sales of pesticides in the state would seem to be essential.

Finally, at some point need to turn our attention to those pesticides and persistent organic pollutants (POPs) which originate outside Alaska and are arriving in unknown quantities by means of the "atmospheric conveyor belt."

Polar regions are one of the world's main collection sinks for pesticides and POPs and upon arrival these toxic chemicals are concentrated in living things through bioaccumulation. For example, DDT, chlordane and dieldrin have been found in the bark of trees in the remote northern latitudes; Arctic cod and turbot have 1,000 times higher concentrations of DDT per gram of fat than the zooplankton they consume; and, chlordane and PCBs are found in extremely high concentrations in the breast milk of Inuit women in Northern Canada even though they are thousands of miles from the closest agricultural areas. Moreover, airborne contaminants have so polluted Lake Leberge just north of Whitehorse, Yukon, that fishers are warned to remove the livers from trout and eat no more than two a day. In all probability, we face the same problems here in Alaska but remain in the dark because no one is looking.

Sincerely,

James R. Carter  
3505 Woodland Park Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99517  
907-243-6671



**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 16:58:03 GMT**

**From: velvet@uswest.net**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

RECEIVED  
APR 06 2000

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Deborah A. Poland  
3819 Benthaven St  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526



**Subject: Act NOW Support Your Right-to-Know About Pesticides**

**Date: Wed, 05 Apr 2000 15:32:52 GMT**

**From: beckiretzlaff@hotmail.com**

**To: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us**

RECEIVED  
APR 06 2000

Dear Norman Rokeberg,

Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere. Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancer, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies and asthma. Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.

In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use. Currently, there are 2,979 pesticide labels registered for use in the State of Alaska. Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.

Accordingly, I urge you to pass a strong pesticide right-to-know bill which will protect human health and the environment. The law should have mandatory reporting requirements and fines for failure to report.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Becki Retzlaff  
622 W. Forest Ave. #38  
Detroit, Michigan 48201

**HB**

**357**

(7)

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Referred to Committee: February 9, 2000

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Judiciary

Date of Committee Action: Feb 25, 2000

The LABOR AND COMMERCE Committee considered:

HB 357

HOUSE BILL NO. 357

REDEMPTION OF CORPORATE SHARES

"An Act relating to the redemption of shares of certain Alaska corporations."

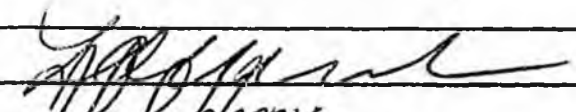
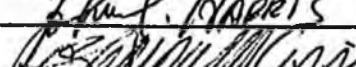
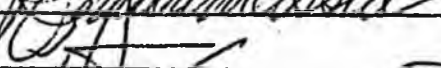
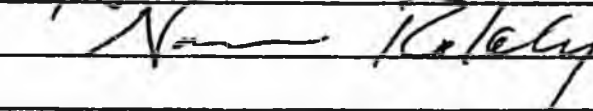
recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute \_\_\_\_\_  the same title  a new title

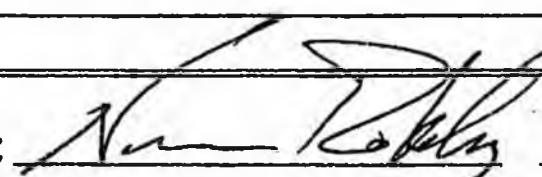
additional referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee  
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) \_\_\_\_\_  
 fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_  fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) DCE D 2/24/00  zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE  2-25-00

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA  
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO. HB357**

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Community & Econ. Dev.  
 Title Redemption of shares of certain AK Corporations JRU Banking, Securities, and Corporations  
 Component Banking, Securities, and Corporations  
 Sponsor Rep. Murkowski  
 Requester H L&C Component Serial No. 1233

**Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)**

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY00) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The division does not anticipate any fiscal impact with this proposed legislation.

Prepared by Franklin T. Elder, Director  
 Division Banking, Securities and Corporations  
 Approved by Commissioner Deborah B. Sedwick  
 Agency Community and Economic Development

Phone 465-2521  
 Date/Time 2/24/00 8:24 AM  
 Date 2/24/00

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# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

*Member:*  
JUDICIARY  
COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS  
LABOR AND COMMERCE



**REPRESENTATIVE LISA MURKOWSKI**

Government Hill • Elmendorf • East Anchorage

*Session:*  
ALASKA STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, AK 99801-1182  
PHONE: (907) 465-3783  
FAX: (907) 465-2293  
TOLL FREE: (877) 460-3783

*Interim:*  
716 WEST 4TH AVENUE  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501-2133  
PHONE: (907) 269-0174  
FAX: (907) 269-0177

RECEIVED  
FEB 23 2000

**To: Representative Rokeberg Chairman, L&C**  
**From: Representative Murkowski**  
**Date: 02/23/00**  
**Re: House Bill 357**

---

Please schedule a hearing for HB 357, a bill entitled "An Act relating to the redemption of shares of certain Alaska corporations." HB 357 provides Alaska corporations the ability to issue preferred stock that is redeemable at the request of the holder.

The right to have stock redeemed under specific conditions is an important commercial term in a sale to a holder, a provision commonly included in the sale of redeemable preferred stock. This share redemption right gives the holder an avenue to get the holder's cash back under terms negotiated with the issuing corporation. This proposed legislation would bring Alaska law in line several other states and promote commerce in Alaska.

## Testimony

3:15pm Friday, February 23 in L&C

- **Franklin Terry Elder: Will Attend Meeting**  
*Director*  
*Division of Banking, Securities & Corporations*  
PO Box 110807  
Juneau, AK 99811-0807  
*Phone: 907-465-2521*  
*Fax: 907-465-2549*
- **John M Lowber: LIO Anchorage**  
*Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*  
*General Communications, Inc.*  
2550 Denali Street, Suite 1000  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
*Phone: 907-265-5628*  
*Fax: 907-265-5676*
- **Morrie Shepard: LIO Anchorage**  
*VP of Finance*  
*Reeve Aleutian Airways*  
4700 International Airport Road  
343 West 6<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
*Phone: 907-243-1112*
- **Dave Taylor: LIO Anchorage**  
*Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*  
*Brady & Company, Inc.*  
1031 West 4<sup>th</sup> Suite 400  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
*Phone: 907--276-5617*
- **Julius Brecht: Call from Portland, Oregon 1-800-368-8772**  
*Attorney*  
*Wohlforth, Vassar, Johnson & Brecht*  
900 West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 600  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone in Portland, Oregon: 503-279-9000  
*Phone: 907-276-6401*  
*Fax: 907-276-5093*

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

*Chair:*

MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

*Member:*

JUDICIARY  
COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS  
LABOR AND COMMERCE



## REPRESENTATIVE LISA MURKOWSKI

Government Hill • Elmendorf • East Anchorage

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## Sponsor Statement HB 357

“ An Act Relating to the redemption of shares of certain Alaska corporations.”

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House Bill 357 allows for the redemption of preferred stock at the discretion of the shareholder. By providing this option, Alaska corporations are given an alternative to raise funds and Alaskan investors are given an expanded investment opportunity. As the Alaska Corporate Code stands now, redemption of preferred shares is only at the option of the issuer.

The right to have stock redeemed under specific conditions is an important commercial term in a sale to a holder, a provision commonly included in the sale of redeemable preferred stock. This share redemption right gives the holder an avenue to get the holder's cash back under terms negotiated with the issuing corporation.

With the enactment of this bill, share redemption would continue to be subject to other provisions of the code. For example, redemption is prohibited if the amount of the corporation's retained earnings immediately before the proposed distribution equals or exceeds the amount of the proposed distribution. These restrictions on distributions are codified as AS 10.06.358.

The Alaska Corporations Code is modeled, in part, after the California Corporations Code which has been amended and expanded to allow issuance of stock that is redeemable under circumstances other than at the option of the issuing corporation. For example, in the case of preferred stock, share redemption is allowed at the option of the holder. A number of other states allow issuance of stock under conditions as provided in the proposed changes to the Alaska Corporations Code. These proposed changes would bring Alaska law in line with these other states and promote commerce in Alaska.

I urge your support of HB 357.



## **Sectional Analysis of HB 357**

### **Section 1:**

- Provides drafting style corrections to make specific reference to AS 10.06.325

### **Section 2:**

- Provides that a corporation may through its articles of incorporation, establish common shares that are redeemable either at the option of the corporation or on the happening of specified events.
- Provides that preferred shares are redeemable at the option of the corporation, on the happening of a specified event, at the option of the holder, or upon vote of the shareholders.

### **Section 3:**

- Eliminates the prohibition against share redemption at the option of the holder.
- Clarifies existing law as to share redemption involving an open-end investment company.

### **Section 4:**

- Establishes general guidelines to be followed in share redemption.
- Clarifies that AS 10.06.325 is the only manner by which a corporation may issue redeemable shares notwithstanding the provisions of AS 10.06.375 which allow a corporation to impose additional restriction on share redemption.

WOHLFORTH, VASSAR, JOHNSON & BRECHT  
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

JULIUS J. BRECHT  
CHERYL RAWLS BROOKING  
CYNTHIA L. CARTLEDGE  
BARBARA J. DREYER  
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February 22, 2000

Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chair  
House Labor and Commerce Committee  
House of Representatives, State Capitol, Room 24  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Statement In Support of HB 357 -- Share Redemption Bill

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

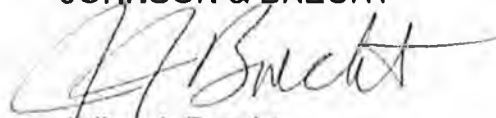
Please find enclosed a statement of testimony which I respectfully submit to the House Labor and Commerce Committee pertaining to HB 357, an act relating to the redemption of shares of certain Alaska corporations.

I am an attorney in private practice and managing shareholder of my firm in Anchorage. I am a past director of the Alaska Division of Banking, Securities and Corporation, serving from 1976 through 1980. Since then, I have been in private practice in Anchorage. My law practice is in the area of business law, with a focus on securities, corporate and finance law. In particular, I have represented General Communication, Inc. on corporate and securities matters for a number of years, including the present share redemption statutory amendment.

It is my understanding that the committee intends to hold hearings on this bill on February 25, 2000. While I plan to be out of state on that date, I could be available via telephone to testify and respond to questions from the committee on the bill as well.

Sincerely,

WOHLFORTH, VASSAR  
JOHNSON & BRECHT



Julius J. Brecht

JJB/neb

Enclosure(s)

RECEIVED  
FEB 23 2000

**STATEMENT OF TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT SHARE REDEMPTION BILL (HB 357)**

**Submitted Before the  
House Labor and Commerce Committee  
on  
February 25, 2000**

Members of the committee, my name is Julius J. Brecht. I am an attorney and the managing shareholder of the law firm of Wohlforth, Vassar, Johnson & Brecht, A Professional Corporation having offices in Anchorage, Alaska. I am a past director of the Alaska Division of Banking, Securities and Corporations, serving from 1976 through 1980. Since then I have been in private practice in Anchorage, Alaska. My law practice is in the area of business law with a focus on securities, corporate and finance law.

I participated in the development and, later, the review of proposals for a new Alaska corporate code in the late-1970s and through the 1980s. That ten year effort resulted in a bill being enacted by the Alaska Legislature which became the Alaska Corporations Code, effective July 1, 1989. That code is codified at AS 10.06.

As comprehensive as was the effort to prepare and enact the Alaska Corporations Code, the needs of corporate law do change with time. For example, the Alaska Corporations Code provisions on redemption of shares found at AS 10.06.325 was based upon a similar provision of the California Corporation Code at that time. California law had, for some time, prohibited shares which are redeemable at the option of the holder, with limited exception. However, in 1983, the California Corporations Code was changed expressly to allow share redemption at the option of the holder.

HB 357 provides for amendment of the Alaska Corporations Code pertaining to share redemption of an Alaska corporation. The primary focus of the bill is on changes to AS 10.06.325. At present, Section 325 allows share redemption at the option of the

issuing corporation. However, it prohibits an Alaska corporation from selling stock that includes a right in the holder of the stock to require the corporation to redeem the stock.

The bill expands the circumstances under which share redemption may occur. The right to have stock redeemed under specific conditions is an important commercial term in a sale of stock to a holder. It is a provision commonly included in the issuance and sale of redeemable preferred stock. It gives the holder a mechanism for the return of the holder's investment under terms as negotiated with the corporation.

The changes to AS 10.06.325 proposed in HB 357, in major part, simply revise Alaska corporate law to reflect the same changes adopted in California relating to share redemption at the option of the holder. A number of other states, which have become commercial centers in this country, have similar provisions regarding share redemption at the option of the holder. Based upon my limited review of a small portion of those commercial states, I found that, in addition to California, the states of Michigan, Ohio, Connecticut, Delaware and New Jersey have similar provisions.

Even with enactment of HB 357, a share redemption right would continue to be subject to other provisions of the code which preclude the exercise of the redemption right under certain circumstances. A distribution to a corporation's shareholders, e.g., as a result of an exercise of share redemption rights, is prohibited unless certain conditions are met. Those conditions are that the amount of the corporation's retained earnings immediately before the proposed distribution equals or exceeds the amount of the proposed distribution or otherwise satisfies conditions on distributions set forth in the code. These restrictions on distributions are codified at AS 10.06.358.

In my view, the proposed changes to Section 325 do not lessen the provisions of the code protecting shareholders of the corporation. However, the proposed changes will

allow greater flexibility to a corporation's board of directors in addressing capital needs in present day financial markets.

The other provisions of HB 357 make other changes to the Alaska Statutes to accommodate these primary changes to Section 325. I have prepared a brief section-by-section outline of the provisions of the bill. It is attached to this statement of testimony.

In summary, the Alaska Corporations Code is, in my view, presently in need of amendment to recognize the needs of modern corporations, while retaining shareholder protection as already adopted in other commercial states. Specifically, that amendment is needed to incorporate changes to code provisions of California on which Section 325 is based.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony before the committee.

The following is a brief outline of the specific provisions of the share redemption bill (HB 357) submitted to the Alaska legislature in January 2000:

- **Section 1 of the bill –**
  - *Provides* drafting style correction to make specific reference to AS 10.06.325
  
- **Section 2 of the bill –**
  - *Provides* a corporation may through its articles establish common shares that are redeemable, under either of the following –
    - At option of the corporation (present Alaska law)
    - On the happening of specific events (new separate provision follows California law)
  - *Provides* a corporation may through its articles establish preferred shares that are redeemable under any of the following –
    - At the option of the corporation (present Alaska law)
    - On the happening of specified events (new separate provision, follows California law)
    - At the option of the holder (new provision, follows California law)
    - Upon vote of shareholders (new provision, follows California law)
  
- **Section 3 of the bill –**
  - *Eliminates* prohibition against share redemption at holder option (follows California law)
  - *Clarifies* existing law as to share redemption involving an open-end investment company
  
- **Section 4 of the bill (new provisions) –**
  - *Establishes* guidelines for share redemption (Subsection (d), follows California law) –
    - Must state terms and conditions in articles
    - For partial share redemption, must state share selection method in articles
    - Exception – Share redemption at option of corporation (covered by AS 10.06.385)
  - *Clarifies* AS 10.06.325 is only way to issue redeemable shares (Subsection (e)) –
    - Notwithstanding provisions of AS 10.06.375 allowing a corporation to impose "additional restriction" on share redemption

February 22, 2000



Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chair  
House Labor and Commerce Committee  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 24  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

Enclosed please find a statement of testimony, which I respectfully submit, to the House Labor and Commerce Committee in support of ~~HB 357, an act relating to the redemption of shares under Alaska law.~~

I will be available to testify via teleconference on February 25, 2000. I will be pleased to answer any questions regarding the enclosed testimony.

Very truly yours,

John M. Lowber  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

JML/hl  
enclosure

RECEIVED  
FEB 25 2000



STATEMENT OF TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE SHARE  
REDEMPTION BILL (HB 357)

Submitted Before the  
House Labor and Commerce Committee  
On  
February 25, 2000

Members of the committee, my name is John M. Lowber. I am a Senior Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer for General Communication, Inc. and its Subsidiaries and have been serving in that capacity for nearly fifteen years. I am also a certified public accountant in the state of Alaska. In my capacity as Chief Financial Officer, it is my responsibility to raise various types of debt and equity financing necessary to meet the requirements of GCI's continuously evolving business plans.

My interest in the proposed revision to the Alaska Corporations Code is based on my recent experience negotiating the terms of a preferred stock transaction.

During the spring of 1999, GCI became interested in raising a modest amount of additional capital in order to fully implement its business plan for the remainder of 1999. Our interest in raising additional capital led us to negotiate with a couple of investors willing to purchase convertible preferred stock of GCI. The company and the potential investors negotiated and executed a term sheet, and attorneys began preparing definitive agreements. It was during this process that it was brought to my attention that, unlike that of many other states, Alaska law does not allow the sale of securities that are redeemable at the option of the holder.

In a normal situation, an investor buys convertible securities that can be exchanged for a fixed number of shares of common stock. As the value of the underlying common stock increases, so does the likelihood that the convertible security will be converted into common stock. The investors' expected strategy is to convert to common stock, usually at a premium to the market price at the time of the initial investment, and then sell the common stock in order to realize the gain on the investment. Oftentimes, the security will provide for an interest element to go along with the conversion feature. The investor enjoys a current return on his or her investment while at the

same time sharing in the upside potential posed by an increase in the value of the common stock.

An investor will generally require protection in the event that the underlying stock does not appreciate or in fact, depreciates. This protection is usually in the form of a redemption option. Should things not materialize as planned, the investor would have the right, under previously negotiated conditions, to ask the Company to redeem the shares. The right to request redemption under certain circumstances provides comfort to the investor that the monies invested will be returned. Absent such a right, the investor would likely require an increased return to compensate for the perceived increase in risk. An increased return to the investor equates to a higher cost of capital to the issuer.

This bill will help Alaska companies raise capital in an increasingly competitive marketplace. Without that opportunity, Alaskan businesses will have an increasingly hard time raising capital to invest in their Alaskan business. Alternatively, businesses may find it necessary to incorporate in other states, driving the services which support incorporation to those states. It is my belief that the legislature should do what it can to eliminate any competitive disadvantages that might arise as a result of incorporating in Alaska

Thank you for your consideration.

**HB**

**364**

RECEIVED  
FEB 29 2000

REPRESENTATIVE ERIC CROFT

Memorandum

To: Rep. Norm Rokeberg, Chair, House Labor & Commerce Committee  
From: Reps. Croft, Brice, Cissna, & Harris  
Re: HB 364  
Date: 2/25/00

We respectfully request a hearing for HB 364 in the House Labor & Commerce Committee. This legislation would raise the Alaska minimum wage to \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 2001, \$6.75 per hour effective January 1, 2002, and each year thereafter adjust for inflation. We think this is a good bill and deserves to be heard.

Enclosed for your information are:

- Sponsor Statement
- Sectional Analysis
- Pertinent Background Information

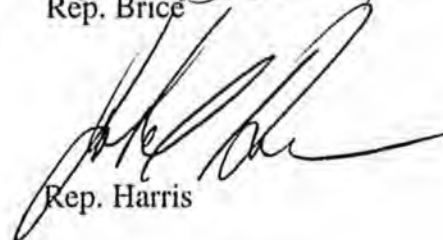
Should you require any more information please contact Peggy Wilcox in Rep. Croft's office.

Thank you for your attention,

  
Rep. Croft

  
Rep. Brice

  
Rep. Cissna

  
Rep. Harris





## Representative Eric Croft Sponsor Statement

### House Bill 364 *"Minimum Wage Increase"*

When people get a job, get up every day and go to work, they should have the opportunity to better themselves, not live in poverty, and not have to work multiple jobs to barely make a living. As we move people off welfare and into work, we have a responsibility to make sure that work pays. HB 364 will not make people rich. Raising the Alaska's minimum wage will merely make it so that if a person has a job they will have the opportunity make a living wage. When people work 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year, they should not have to live in poverty.

The original territorial minimum wage was set at fifty cents higher than the federal minimum wage, then \$1.00. This 50% boost to the earning power of Alaskans has gradually eroded. With the current federal minimum wage at \$5.15, and Alaska's minimum wage at \$5.65, the percentage increase is less than 10%. HB 364 would increase Alaska's minimum wage to \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 2001, \$6.75 per hour effective January 1, 2002 and each year thereafter adjust for inflation, paralleling the rising cost of living.

The current Alaska minimum wage is nearly \$5,000 beneath the federal poverty level for a family of four. Alaska has the lowest minimum wage on the West Coast. With our high cost of living in Alaska, especially in rural Alaska, there is no good reason Alaska should be behind California, Oregon and Washington.

I urge you to support HB 364.

# LEGAL SERVICES

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

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State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

## MEMORANDUM

February 22, 2000

**SUBJECT:** Sectional Summary of HB 364 (increasing the minimum wage)

**TO:** Representative Eric Croft

**FROM:** Teresa B. Cramer *TBC*  
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill. As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

**Section 1** states the legislative findings.

**Sec. 2** increases the minimum wage until the end of the year 2000 to \$6.50, and the minimum wage for calendar year 2001 to \$6.75. For years after December 31, 2001, the minimum wage is to be adjusted by regulation to reflect inflation, based on the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for Anchorage, Alaska. The new minimum wage is to be rounded to the nearest penny.

TC:lmb  
00-009.lmb



## JUST THE FACTS



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### What is Alaska's current Minimum Wage?

The minimum wage in Alaska by law is \$.50 over the federal minimum wage. Since the current federal minimum wage is \$5.15 per hour, Alaska's minimum wage is \$5.65 per hour.

### Why do we need to raise the Minimum Wage?

The minimum wage is supposed to assure "the maintenance of the minimum standards of living necessary for the health, efficiency and general well-being of workers." No one can say Alaska's current minimum wage does this. A full-time worker, who makes \$5.65 per hour, earns only \$11,752 annually. This is more than \$4000 below the federal poverty threshold for a family of four (\$16,400) and more than \$1,000 below the federal poverty threshold for a family of three (\$12,802).

### How is Alaska doing compared to other states?

There are a number of states with a higher minimum wage than Alaska. In fact, Alaska has the lowest minimum wage of any of the Pacific Northwest states of California, Oregon or Washington. California's minimum wage is \$5.75 per hour, Oregon is \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 1999 and the State of Washington's minimum wage will increase to \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 2000, and adjusted annually thereafter for inflation. The minimum wage was increased in all these states by citizen initiatives.

### Why Now? Wasn't the Minimum Wage just increased recently?

The most recent increase in Alaska's minimum wage occurred on January 1, 1997. This was a result of an increase in the federal minimum wage by Congress. With the new Welfare-to-Work law, there is little motivation to enter the workforce at a minimum wage that keeps you in poverty, even though you are working full-time. You will still need public assistance, whether it is in the form of food stamps, health care funds, or tax subsidized housing to make ends meet. Even with the increase in the federal minimum wage in 1997, this increase did not restore the minimum wage to its historic value.

### Who makes the Minimum Wage? Are they mostly teenagers and part-time workers?

No, studies have shown that over 70% of those receiving minimum wages are adults. In Alaska, many minimum wage earners are employed in seafood processing plants, food service workers, day care workers, waiters and waitresses, cashiers, security guards, fast food cooks, delivery drivers and others in low paying occupations. It is estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 workers would be affected by an increase in Alaska's minimum wage.



# OUR MESSAGE



*"It's Fair and it makes good sense"*



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## IT'S FAIR

☞ It's this simple. If you work 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year – you should not live in poverty!

- ☐ A full-time worker, who earns \$5.65 per hour, makes \$11,752, significantly below the federal poverty level. Poverty wages are shameful and they should not be allowed.
- ☐ We are not talking about making people rich here. Minimum wage jobs have few or no benefits. We are just talking about bringing people who play by the rules, get a job and keep it – out of poverty!

☞ The minimum wage needs to be automatically adjusted for inflation.

- ☐ The minimum wage has fallen further and further behind the cost of living. This ballot proposition will end this.
- ☐ Indexing our minimum wage in Alaska, like we do our Alaska Permanent Fund, is the right thing to do.
- ☐ Indexing will take the politics out of the minimum wage debate and put fairness back into it.

☞ As we seek to move people off welfare into work, we have to make sure work pays.

- ☐ A full-time worker at or near our current minimum wage will still need public assistance, in the form of tax-subsidized housing, health care and food stamps. Why should corporations and businesses be allowed to take advantage of a wage so low, that taxpayers are forced to pay for these subsidized benefits?

## **GUEST OPINION**

**By: Mano Frey**

### **“IT’S TIME TO RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE”**

Raising the minimum wage in Alaska makes good sense and is the right thing to do! Currently, Alaska’s minimum wage is \$5.65 per hour. Our state minimum wage has been, since territorial days, fifty cents above the federal minimum wage. However, Alaska is quickly falling behind many other states. In fact, at \$5.65 per hour, Alaska has the lowest minimum wage on the West Coast. California, Oregon and Washington all have a higher minimum wage than Alaska.

For example, in the State of Oregon, voters passed an initiative in 1996, to increase Oregon’s minimum wage to \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 1999. In 1998, voters in the State of Washington passed an initiative to increase their state’s minimum wage to \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 2000 and then annually thereafter, adjust their minimum wage to inflation. With our high cost of living in Alaska, especially rural Alaska, there is no good reason Alaska should be behind California, Oregon or Washington.

In May of this year, the Alaska State AFL-CIO filed an initiative with the State of Alaska proposing an increase in our state’s minimum wage. This initiative has the support of the Alaska Federation of Natives, various churches and religious leaders and thousands of Alaskans from across the State. The initiative entitled 99 WAGE has been properly certified by the Lieutenant Governor and proposes that Alaska’s minimum wage be increased to \$6.50 per hour effective January 1, 2001, \$6.75 per hour effective January 1, 2002 and each year thereafter, be adjusted by inflation.

As we seek to move people off welfare and into work, we have to make sure that work pays! It’s simple. If you work 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year, you should not have to live in poverty. There are people in our country who don’t work because they can make more on welfare, by staying on public assistance and receiving government subsidized health care, child care, food stamps and housing. We are not talking about making people rich here. We are just saying that when people get a job, get up everyday

and go to work, they should have an opportunity to better themselves, not live in poverty, and not have to work multiple jobs to barely make a living.

There are several initiative petitions being circulated for signatures from registered voters. This is the only petition, however, that will financially benefit those people in our state with the greatest need. Other petitions have received more attention from the media, but this is the most important initiative petition being considered this year. We want to make sure we have the required number of signatures prior to the legislature convening on January 10, 2000 in order to place this proposition on the ballot for the general election in 2000.

The Alaska AFL-CIO Paycheck Protection Committee is paying one dollar (\$1.00) per valid signature to anyone willing to gather initiative petition signatures. If you would like to sign the petition or gather signatures please contact the AFL-CIO at 258-6284 or come by our office at 2501 Commercial Drive in Anchorage.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.