

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES, 2003-2004 8672

10795 HOUSE JUDICIARY

Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 08:47:28 -0800

From: "Schimmeyer, Brent" <BSchimmeyer@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

hello my name is brent schimmeyer born and raised here in alaska and a constant voter. im just letting you know that i support the HB 111 with amendments and would like to see it go through. it would level the playing field in alaska and force GCI to pay there far share for using the network that ACS builds and maintains

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Subject: HB 111 Yes, support for Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 08:52:15 -0800

From: "LeNorman, Stacy" <MCEAEX_O=ALASKA+20COMMUNICATIONS+20SYSTEMS+2C+2

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

With all due respect,

I support House Bill 111 as amended. I would hope you would support the bill as amended as well.

When this amended bill passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their 'best' deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Please support this amended bill. Thank you,

Stacy LeNorman
410 Kayak Drive
Anchorage, AK 99515
(907) 348-0101

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Subject: Support for HB111 WITH ALL AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 08:56:30 -0800

From: "Dunham, Curtis L" <cdunham@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for three years and I find myself in a situation where my company is not allowed to compete, because of unfair regulations by the RCA. My job security, retirement, and my children's future are at stake. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments. ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly- GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years). What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopoly company. If you look at GCI's balance sheet their biggest money loser is their local phone service. They simply drive up the cost of cable TV (over \$60 per month now) This subsidy drives down the service to Alaskans because there is no incentive to build or upgrade the infrastructure with lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. If HB 111 is passed with amendments ACS would raise its interconnection fees so that GCI was paying a fair rate for use of the ACS Network. This is competition at work.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field. As a voter in your district, I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please vote to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Curt Dunham
ACS 4-wire board
Private Line Apprentice
564-5960

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Subject: HB111 with all critical amendments attached

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 08:57:06 -0800

From: "Bivins, Ellen" <ebivins@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Dear Rep. McGuire,

I am an employee of Alaska Communications Systems and am writing you to ask that you support HB111 with all the critical amendments attached. As an employee of ACS, I have become more aware of the unfair competition between ACS and their competitors, specifically GCI. I have had a growing concern over this, and compare it to my purchasing my groceries at Carr's (representative of ACS), and paying for them at Fred Meyers (representative of the competition).

I understand the reasons initially for the "subsidized" competition that the U.S. Government set up after breaking up Bell Telephone, however, in Alaska we have a pretty even split of customers between GCI and ACS, with ACS footing the entire expense for plant in the ground, subsidizing GCI for the use of our lines, which they charge their customers, and it is pure profit for them.

I have concerns regarding the continued financial health of the company I work for, and have concerns that the layoffs we have experienced to date will continue, if we do not see changes. I am asking that you support open and fair competition, ensure that we are able to lease our facilities at the real cost of those facilities, removing the unfair competition that currently exists in our state. If the bill passes without the critical amendments attached, it will be business as usual in the telecommunications industry in Alaska, and I fear the health of the company I work for will continue to plummet, and layoffs will increase. The employees of this company only want what is fair, and that is to have HB111 pass with all critical amendments attached.

Thank you for your time.

Ellen Bivins
Sr. Clerical Specialist
Field Services, Central District
564-1112 fax 563-0662
MS#18

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Subject: HB111 with all the amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:01:27 -0800

From: "Naylor, Alisha L." <anaylor@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I am a proud employee of Alaska Communications Systems and am writing you to ask that you support HB111 with all the amendments attached. As an employee of ACS, I have become more aware of the unfair competition between ACS and their competitors, specifically GCI. I have had a growing concern over this, and compare it to my purchasing my groceries at Carr's (representative of ACS), and paying for them at Fred Meyers (representative of the competition).

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly- GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years). I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Would ACS raise its Local and/or Business Customer Rates by \$100 million annually? Of course not. Such action by ACS would drive customers to the competition. ACS would raise its interconnection fees so that GCI was paying a compensatory rate for use of the ACS Network. This is competition at work.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

As a voter in your district, I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please vote to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Alisha Naylor
564-1640
ACS Marketing

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Subject: Fwd: RCA

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:02:35 -0800

From: "Matthew Callahan" <matthewjcallahan@hotmail.com>

To: Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us

Hello, please do everything within your power to eliminate the unfair and unbalanced special treatments that GCI has been receiving from the RCA. *All communications service providers should receive equal treatment.* Under the guise of competition, GCI has persuaded the RCA to require other companies to sell them their services *at below costs* so that GCI can then resell it to customers. This severely undercuts these companies' ability to operate in the black. Fair competition is great, but subsidizing one company at the expense of others is not only absurd, it is punitive, unfair, and restrictive to those companies and the customers they service. It is hindering new technological development and improvements because it is artificially removing profit/investment dollars from one company and shifting them to GCI. Please consider carefully all the facts when you make your votes on this issue. *Please pass HB-111 with all critical amendments.* Thank you, Matthew Callahan

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:05:26 -0800

From: "Nutting, Madeline M." <MNutting@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Fellow Alaskans,

I am very concerned with the House Bill 111. I am a proud ACS employee since 1999. I am hoping the HB111 passes with the amendments to level the playing field with the GCI competition. I have a long history of customer service in retail sales and in that environment there was competition daily, which is a given, but the vendors we dealt with gave purchasers similar costs/savings on the same product. However if there isn't "Fair competition", a company can suffer terribly! Won't you please allow this House Bill 111 to pass with all the amendments, so ACS can have a FAIR Chance at competition and not suffer any longer with having to lease facilities to GCI below ACS' cost?

I thank you for your attention to this matter!

Madeline Nutting
Customer Service Representative
459-6158

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:05:35 -0800

From: "Lesbo, Pam" <plesbo@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Hello,

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for many years and I find myself in a situation where my company is not allowed to compete...my job security, my retirement and my future is at stake. Please, please support HB 111 and all it's critical amendments.

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly - GCI - has been able to do this for over seven years). I encourage you to support HB 111 and all it's critical amendments.

What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure which requires ACS to subsidize it's chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. I encourage you to support HB 111 and all it's critical amendments.

Would ACS raise it's Local and/or Business Customer Rates by \$100 million annually? Of course not. Such action by ACS would drive customers to the competition. ACS would raise it's interconnection fees so that GCI way paying a compensatory rate for use of the ACS Network. This is competition at work.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

As a voter, I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB 111 and all it's critical amendments.

Forcing ACS to subsidize it's competitors is not competition. Please vote to support HB 111 and all it's critical amendments.

Thank you,

Pam Lesbo
ACS/End User Billing
564-1713
plesbo@acsalaska.com

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:06:42 -0800

From: "Larsen, Robert" <rlarsen@acsalaska.com>

To: ""Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat
 ""Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.sta
 ""Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
 ""Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
 ""Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.sta
 ""Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
 ""Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.s

I have lived in Alaska since 1968, when my Father was transferred with Continental Telephone to Manage all Continental properties in the state. His name was Ken Larsen and he was a powerful figure in the communication industry in his day. When he arrived in Alaska the communication industry was in a mess. 14 party lines were not uncommon and prices were out of control. Antiquated equipment dominated the market and one was lucky to be able to call "outside" and talk to friends and family. My Father died last month and left behind his legacy of building one of the most sophisticated networks in the world. But he too, died concerned about the state of the communications industry in Alaska. For too long GCI has been getting away with grand theft. They don't pay for any of the infrastructure yet capitalize on its placement. My Father believed in competition but knew that the word Competition to GCI was merely a marketing ploy. My Father was never afraid of a good fight but only if it was a level playing field. He would be writing to you today and asking for you to support HB 111 WITH AMENDMENTS and put all the Utilities on a level playing field if he were still alive. I am writing for him today, no doubt from heaven, and asking that you please bring real competition to Alaska and pass this bill with amendments. I thank you in advance for your time. Bob Larsen

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Subject: [Fwd: HB111 PLEASE VOTE FOR THE AMENDMENTS]

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:13:18 -0800

From: Sue Gullufsen <Sue_Gullufsen@legis.state.ak.us>

Organization: Alaska State Legislature

To: Representative Lesil McGuire <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

Subject: HB111 PLEASE VOTE FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 08:57:30 -0800

From: "Blair, Betsy" <bblair@acsalaska.com>

To: "webmaster@legis.state.ak.us" <webmaster@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Lesil McGuire,

I implore you to really listen to the honest people that work at ACS and Chugach Electric and other utilities. I have lived here in Anchorage for 36 years. I am still raising my family of 3 children and not only need to keep my job, but more importantly, the city of Anchorage needs the city to have honest and fair people to run the Regulatory Commission. And as it stands, we are loosing money because it cost a lot more to make and keep the telephone lines than we are being paid. We are no longer the monopoly. Those rules were put in place when everything was deregulated. It was the beginning of a new time and new rules. Things have changed drastically. It is time to level the playing field. And make the rules even for all companies, Equal in competition. That's all we ask. FAIRNESS, HONESTY, AND INTEGRITY. Please Senator, vote FOR THE AMENDMENT.. We are not special interest. We are being hurt and companies are able to use the extra monies to hurt us more.. There are a lot of people that work in these utilities and we need our jobs just like every one else.. We are not asking for more than we deserve. Fairness is what it is all about.. Thank you so much for your time and attention. I did see you on the news today. I was impressed. I can see you do believe and work hard to make things right, and fair.. I surely appreciate you for daring to believe in WHATS RIGHT. It takes a lot of courage and convection..

Appreciative and Sincerely
Betsy Blair

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Sue Gullufsen Manager Legislative Information & Teleconferencing Legislative Affairs Agency
--

Subject: Please support the HB 111 with ALL amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:21:23 -0800

From: "Reid, Susie" <sreid2@acsalaska.com>

To: ""Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

> The bread and butter of Telecommunications Companies is the front line-
> Customer Service.
>
>
> I am a former customer service representative and outside sales
> representative for GCI. My years at GCI were successful. I have a high
> respect for the company and especially for CEO Mr. Ron Duncan.
>
> In 2000 I was offered a position at ACS and accepted. With my experience
> at GCI I have been profoundly horrified in witnessing the relentless ways
> in which GCI has been allowed to operate so unfairly against ACS. My job
> at ACS allows me to witness first hand the GCI accounts that have
> accumulated at a rate that ACS has no chance of any fairness. I have
> emailed and spoken to countless individuals about my findings for over two
> years, regardless of my fears for ACS the accounts for GCI continue to
> build at a phenomenal rate.
>
> I have voiced my most favorable solution for ACS and have expressed it's
> urgency without any success. I am not about to let this company collapse
> without trying every avenue to have competitive fairness finally be
> delivered to ACS.
>
> Having worked at GCI on the front line, customer service, I learned first
> hand of the importance of giving excellent customer service. At GCI I
> heard over and over again from happy customers calling in of how wonderful
> it was to make one call or get one visit and being taken care of by one
> customer service representative. At the time GCI was open on the phones
> 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At GCI when a customer called in I
> could offer and sell all the GCI products which included cable/digital
> te evision, local and long distance phone service, internet service/ cable
> modem installation, phone cards, cell phone service and promotions. It
> was a customers delight to have all their questions answered with one
> representative and not having to wait lengthy hold times to be transferred
> from one department to another for each and every product, as is the case
> at ACS. ACS is not allowed, by law, to delight and satisfy the Anchorage
> consumers as GCI does and does with devastating consequences to ACS.
> Bottom line is: The laws need to change. The laws need to include ACS and
> AT&T. The laws need to become what is ethical and enhances the true
> meaning of Fair Competition. GCI is the first company in the United
> States to have created such a successful way of selling
> telecommunications. The ability for GCI to do so while ACS is forced to
> operate as the "old school".. one product, one representative, another
> transfer to another department for a second ACS product, and then a third
> and maybe a forth transfer for a higher monthly fee than GCI is due to the
> result of the current laws. GCI's extravagant advantages in the customer
> service arena and it's results is, in one word, criminal. The current
> laws have lifted GCI as the monopoly, forcing ACS to fail. This will soon
> lead to the devastation of hundreds of employees and their families.

>
> There are so many issues like, cost for maintenance and so on that are
> hurting ACS. I want to focus on what I know first hand that leads GCI to
> success. GCI's customer service is a powerful telecommunications wheel
> that rolls thousands and thousands of ACS customers into their web of
> more affordable products. The products are more affordable because ACS is
> forced by law to have higher rates than GCI. The powerful tool of cross
> selling several products by one customer service representative is a
> consumers dream come true and ACS's nightmare of seeing the results of
> unfair competition.

>
> Please allow competition to begin at ACS's front line, change the laws
> that are leading to the collapse of ACS, a company that strives for
> competitive fairness for Alaska.

>
Please Support the HB 111 with ALL amendments.

>
> Susie Reid 907-564-1750
> Alaska Communications Systems
> Revenue Requirements

>
>
>
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Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT HB111 WITH AMENDMENTS!!!!

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:25:52 -0800

From: "Sipin, Annabelle" <ASipin@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.sta
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.sta
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.

As a member of the telecommunications industry workforce, I respectfully and strongly encourage you to support HB111 WITH ALL ITS CRITICAL AMENDMENTS. This will allow Alaskan telecommunications consumers the "best" deals because competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Thank you.

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Subject: Support HB 111 "with amendments"

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:28:21 -0800

From: "Newlun, Amy S" <ANewlun@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I am in support of house bill HB 111 "with amendments". Please vote accordingly. Thank you and I hope to continue to support you in the future.

Amy Newlun

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:29:53 -0400

From: "David Kelly" <dgkelly@att.net>

To: "The Honorable Lesil L. McGuire" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

David Kelly
3761 Chiniak Bay Drive
Anchorage, AK 99515

May 15, 2003

The Honorable Lesil L. McGuire
House of Representatives
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative McGuire:

My wife Cathy, my son Paul and I all support the passage of HB 0111. We feel it is long overdue. Please push for it's passage.

Thank You,

David Kelly

Sincerely,

David Kelly

Subject: FOR all Amendments Bill Hb 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:29:57 -0800

From: "Muller, Richard T." <rmuller@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.sta
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.sta
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.s

CC: "upuha54@ptialaska.net" <upuha54@ptialaska.net>,
"richard.muller@acsalaska.net" <richard.muller@acsalaska.net>

My name is Richard Muller. I have lived in Alaska all my life. I worked in the Telecommunications field for about 7 years now, three years with ACS.

This bill affects my lively hood along with over a thousand other Alaskans. I don't believe the regulations that are in place now are fair and equitable. ACS has lost 50% of the market place in Anchorage. If regulations don't change too even out the playing field so either player has an advantage, there are going to be a lot of people with out jobs and we are going to be back to a monopoly. ACS's hands are tied. Our competitor has the upper hand. It would be like if you owned a piece of commercial property and the mortgage was \$3200.00 per mo. Then the government stepped in and ordered you to lease it out at \$2500.00 per month. This is simple economics. You are not going to be in business very long.

If you would go to: <http://biz.yahoo.com/e/1/g/gncma.html>. I am sure you are aware that GCI has raised their cable rates to subsidize their local access.

I remember when there were two newspapers in Anchorage. The price of a newspaper was \$.25. Placing newspaper ads was inexpensive. Right after the Times folded the price of the newspapers and ads double due to no competition.

This last Gubernatorial race we were all lied to. Our new Governor told us exactly what we wanted to hear so he would be elected. In the next election I will not be voting for him or his daughter. What he did was wrong. I believe that GCI is on their way to monopolizing the telephone-datacommunications market in Alaska. They are plastering the media with negative ad campaigns. People are being led with a carrot in front of their faces and are not seeing the whole picture. They are being fattened up for the kill. What do you think will happen to the economy in Anchorage with out those jobs? There will be a lot less expendable monies. Businesses will suffer. Real estate will suffer. The economy in Anchorage will come to a grinding halt.

I believe in my Democratic right to vote. I didn't realize how important voting is until I was in my mid 20's. Since then I have not missed voting at an election. I would appreciate your attention and support

Richard Muller
ACS
Voter ID 07361497
Private Line Testing Facilities
264-5960

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Subject: I support House Bill 111 WITH AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:31:13 -0800

From: "Revilla, Richard" <rrevilla@acsalaska.com>

To: Comm member <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
Comm member <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
Comm member <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>,
Comm member <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
Comm member <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>,
Comm member <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Comm member (E-mail)" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

Committee members,

As a registered voter in Alaska, I urgently petition you to support HB111 with ALL amendments. The regulated environment that exists now has NOT succeeded in creating a fair and level playing field for the respective companies involved. Currently, due to the clear advantage GCI has in this regulated environment, there is no incentive for ACS to introduce and install the latest telecommunication technology available since they would only be supporting the competitors customers. Everybody loses because of this. Let us also not forget that GCI already has monopolized the cable market and is seeking to do the same in the telephone market. This country and this state has always prided itself on being the Land of Equal Opportunity and I feel that to pass HB111 without all of the critical amendments is to not support what this country and state are all about.

Thank you

Richard J. Revilla

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Subject: SUPPORT HB 111 AND ALL ITS CRITICAL AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:33:46 -0800

From: "Erickson, Becky" <BERICKSO@acsalaska.com>

To: "representative_lesil_mcguire@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_lesil_mcguire@legis.state.ak.us>
"representative_tom_anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_tom_anderson@legis.state.ak.us>
"representative_dan_ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_dan_ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"representative_jim_holm@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_jim_holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
"representative_ralph_samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_ralph_samuels@legis.state.ak.us>,
"representative_les_gara@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_les_gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"representative_max_gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_max_gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

As a voter, worker, family person in the State Of Alaska, I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please Support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

I have been employed in telecommunications since 1985 (ATU that is now ACS). It is embarrassing to arrive at a GCI customers establishment to install new service or to fix a phone problem and the customer chastises you for being a ACS employee. We explain the situation that ACS owns the service lines and does all the repairs for the lines GCI leases.

If GCI had to design, build and maintain their own property then and only then would Alaskan telecommunications consumers have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Becky Erickson
ACS OSP Construction & Splicing
564-1056 office
244-0173 cellular

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Subject: HB111 with all critical amendments attached

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:35:59 -0800

From: bivins@acsalaska.net

**To: Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Representatives,

My wife is an employee of Alaska Communications Systems and I am writing you to ask that you support HB111 with all the critical amendments attached. We have become more aware of the unfair and double standard competition between ACS and their competitors, specifically GCI.

I understand the reasons initially for the "subsidized" competition that the U.S. Government set up after breaking up Bell Telephone, however, in Alaska the competition is stiff between GCI and ACS, and because ACS is unable to compete fairly and evenly, we have been unable to provide the kind of service our competitors are allowed to provide. ACS is currently unable to bundle service as their competitor is able to do. The current split of customers is around 50%, and ACS is required to subsidize GCI with the use of their facilities at a reduced price.

I have concerns regarding the continued financial health of the company my wife work for, and have concerns that the layoffs that the company has experienced to date will continue, if we do not see changes. I am asking that you support open and fair competition, ensure that ACS is able to lease their facilities at the real cost of those facilities, removing the unfair competition that currently exists in our state. If the bill passes without the critical amendments attached, it will be business as usual in the telecommunications industry in Alaska, and I fear the health of the company my wife works for will continue to plummet, and layoffs will increase. Our family and the employees of this company only want what is fair, and that is to have HB111 pass with all critical amendments attached.

Thank you for your time.
Gary Bivins

Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT BILL HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:37:16 -0800

From: "Hall, Beverly O." <BHall@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I have worked for ACS & previous owners for 26 years now. Because my company-ACS is not allowed to compete .. my job and retirement are at stake.

I support bill HB 111 and all its critical amendments .& i ask for your support to get this bill passed .Acs should be allowed to compete by the same rules as our competor-GCI . We should be allowed to bundle together regulated & unregulated services as local service, long distance , internet & wireless, which GCI has been doing for over seven years. they have the monolpy on cable ..

I ask that you SUPPORT HB 111 AND ALL ITS CRITICAL AMENDMENTS , IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF ACS . We are the most highly skilled workforce in the state and we can compete with anyone, if we are given a fair playing field.

PLEASE, PLEASE SUPPORT HB 111 & ALL ITS CRITICAL AMENDMENTS
THANK YOU
Beverly Hall

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Give us a chance! Make it fair... I support HB111 and all its amendments!

Subject: Give us a chance! Make it fair... I support HB111 and all its amendments!

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:37:27 -0800

From: "Estep, Pamela" <pestep@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

How about letting ACS develop a cable television customer base and lease GCI equipment for pennies, which would enable us to provide ACS cable television service to OUR customers at a much lower cost of service than GCI could provide? Do you think GCI could stay in the cable business if they had to foot the bill to maintain all the equipment necessary to provide service to their customers AND ours? This is exactly the scenario in regard to the telecom side of our relationship with GCI. They lease our equipment for pennies, which enables them charge their customers less which, of course, brings them more customers for less money!

Pam Estep
ACS Payroll
907.564.1552

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:37:33 -0800

From: "Wilke, Patrick" <Pat.Wilke@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Dear Representative Lesil McGuire

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for many years and I find myself in a situation where my company is not allowed to compete.... my job security, retirement, and my children's future are at stake. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly- GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years). I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Would ACS raise its Local and/or Business Customer Rates by \$100 million annually? Of course not. Such action by ACS would drive customers to the competition. ACS would raise its interconnection fees so that GCI was paying a compensatory rate for use of the ACS Network. This is competition at work.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

As a voter in your district, I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please vote to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Patrick Wilke

Engineer

ACS Wireless & Messaging

600 Telephone Ave. MS#28

Anchorage, Ak 99503

pat.wilke@acsalaska.com

Ofc: 907.564.8012

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Subject: HB111 With Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:38:12 -0800

From: "Ketchum, Judy" <JKETCHUM@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.sta
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.sta
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.st

I have worked here at Alaska Communications Systems for 17 years. I have seen several changes take place in the telecommunications field. I find myself in a situation where my company isn't allowed to compete in a fair market and that my job, retirement, and children's future are at stake. I am hoping that I can get your support on HB111 with the critical amendments to ensure that we have a fair competitive market in telecommunication to work with now. It is imperative that this HB111 with the amendments passes to keep competition out there in the market fair for everyone.

ACS is NOT going to raise rates to the Local or Business Customers as such action like this would cause our customers to go to the competition where there is a more reasonable rate. This passing HB111 with the Amendments will help us to raise the interconnection fees so that GCI or any other competitor out in the market would pay compensatory rates for the use of the ACS Network. I feel like this would keep the competition in the playing field and not allow it to get so one sided. Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition.

If you support and pass the HB111 with all the critical amendments attached it, it will finally allow ACS to bundle some of the packages as GCI does now, to allow our customers that are loyal to us and new customers that we obtain, to be able to receive special package offers. We can give them the same service that GCI has been able to give for the last seven years.

As a voter in your district, I hope to encourage you to represent my family and myself as you are casting your vote on the HB111 with the amendments.

Please Support HB111 And Its Critical Amendments

Judy Ketchum
CABS Billing Specialist

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Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:38:45 -0800

From: "Dicaprio, Wendy" <WDICAPRI@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Please support this bill with all its critical amendments. I have worked in telecommunications industry for 28 years and firmly believe that ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly- GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years).

What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred.

GCI is constantly complaining that these amendments will cause telephone rates to skyrocket. They are the ones who might have to raise rates when they have to start paying ACS a fair price for the facilities they are using.

When House Bill 111 (as amended) passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Sincerely,
Wendy DiCaprio

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Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:42:10 -0800

From: "Urias, Richard G." <RUrias@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Dear Representative McGuire

I am a 32 year resident and voter from Sitka. I am married and have 5 children, 4 of whom were born and raised in Sitka. I am also a 27 year employee of the local telephone company ACS. The passage of HB 111 without the critical amendments will continue to cripple the company I work for in the competitive telephone market. Although Sitka and most other communities in Southeast have not been affected by the introduction of competition in the local phone market I have seen first hand how it has affected the building and maintaining of the infrastructure critical to providing the quality and state of the art phone service that our state enjoys. The loss of revenue from services that are given to our competition at rates that are far below what it costs for us to maintain is not what competition is all about. If the RCA is to continue along its present course I fear for the jobs of my co-workers both here in Sitka and all over the state of Alaska. Again I urge you to support HB111 and critical amendments attached so that the incumbent local service provider can be free to compete in the telephone market. ACS must be able to market its products without the regulatory confines that are not placed on our competition.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely

Richard Urias

511 Verstovia

Sitka, Alaska 99835

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Subject: Please support HB111 with amendments, here why:

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:42:25 -0800

From: "Anderson, N. (Keith)" <keith.anderson@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Honored House Judiciary Committee members:

I'll admit I don't usually take the time to write or contact you when an issue sparks controversy or indirectly affects me so it's with a sense of shameless self-preservation that I write to you today. To start with, I'm an ACS employee represented by the IBEW so I'm used to the ground being shaky with all the buyouts and cutbacks the company has gone through over the last 5 years. I started with MUS in Fairbanks, then it became PTI, then Centurytel and then of course, ACS which really amounted to a merger with ATU. With each change in ownership, management and corporate culture, there was plenty of uncertainty concerning my job and my future but it pales in comparison to the uncertainty we employees of ACS now face if HB111 passes without the amendments which apply to fair competition in the Alaska telecommunications market. ACS is being forced to subsidize GCI by having to lease our network to them below cost and that is driving this company toward bankruptcy. When they take out full page ads saying we want the bill to pass so that we can raise the rates, how many customers do think we'd keep? We only want to be able to raise the rate of the lines we lease to GCI or other CLECs to offset the cost it takes to maintain and improve upon the network we have. If it gets worse, and it will if this bill as amended does not go through, we may be looking at another round of layoffs affecting a significant number of Alaskan families (there's about 1150 of us at this point.) If ACS does go to bankruptcy, that puts the union in jeopardy as well. All labor contracts could go to renegotiation or be thrown out the window completely. As HB111 and the amendments we need to survive come across your desk for consideration please think about the effects this vital piece of legislation will have on the lives, jobs and livelihood of your constituency. I'm all for competition, ACS is even on the record requesting it when we had a majority of the market, it just seems that the cost of doing business should be taken into consideration when the RCA or APUC tells us what the rates have to be. As it is now, the set pricing is not a fair price in ACS employees will have to bear that cost in loss of jobs, income and whatever comes with that. Let's say ACS has a lemonade stand: ACS has built the counter and bought sugar, lemons, cups and even ice. Let's say the total outlay was \$5 and we can make 5 gallons so it costs \$1 a gallon total. We sell our lemonade for 25 cents a cup. Along comes GCI and they set up a stand nearby and they get the Lemonade Commission to say that ACS has to sell lemons, cups and ice to GCI at a cut rate price so that they too can compete in the lemonade market because apparently, ACS has all the sugar, lemons, cups and ice. So ACS has to sell our materials to GCI for say \$2.00 then that leave ACS with \$3.00 worth of materials and we're left to compete with GCI and this arrangement while they sell their lemonade for 15 cents a cup. So, we're left with a situation where GCI is both getting their lemonade supplies for way under cost so this gives them low enough overhead to charge less for their lemonade thus swaying customers that don't want to pay 25 cents when they could pay 15 cents so at every step in this process, ACS is making less and less money and it's to the point where ACS can't afford sugar, lemons and cups anymore. Does this really make sense? I just want to conclude by asking that you rate this situation in your mind on scale of fairness from 1 to 10. If it's fair by all means, give it a 10 and vote HB111 as is. If you can see any part of this scenario that places an iota of

doubt that the playing field is level and all is fair in the lemonade market of Alaska then rating a 9 or below should prompt you to vote your conscience and allow HB111 to be amended to provide fair competition in the telecommunications market of Alaska. Otherwise the moral to this story will be "when life gives you lemons, you can't always make lemonade, you have to sell them to another guy so he can make lemonade cheaper than you and put you out of business." Don't let this happen. The futures of too many telecommunication industry workers are in your hands in this matter as well as the integrity of the network and services we help maintain and provide to our communities will dwindle and the negative impact on Alaska's already-enfeebled economy will be felt. I appreciate you taking the time to read this and weigh the fairness of HB111 as written versus the amendments that will allow the industry to grow and allow mutual co-existence between the competing companies and a choice for consumers without giving one company such an over-whelming advantage over the other. Please vote for HB111 with proposed amendments.

Thank you,

N. Keith Anderson

PC Support Technician at ACS

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:45:24 -0400 (EDT)

From: "Pat McGraw" <p.mcgraw@excite.com>

I have worked in Cmmunications my whole life. I find my job security threatened by the unfair competition of GCI. ACS should not be required to subsidize its competition. This truly discourages growth and investment in new technologies. In the last few years I have seen this first hand. If we truly want Alaska to have the best of the new technologies it will take investing in the future. It cannot be done when there is no margin for profit. Please support HB 111 and ALL the critical amendments.

Sincerely,
Neil P. McGraw

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The most personalized portal on the Web!

Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:46:03 -0800

From: "Jackie Endsley" <jendsley@Ibew1547.org>

To: <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

To the Legislature,

I am in favor of House Bill 111 WITH AMENDMENTS. I truly believe there is NOT a level playing field in regard to the competition between ACS and GCI and I believe this bill help to alleviate this problem.

Jackie Endsley
18028 Sanctuary Drive
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-9109 home
(907) 777-7257 work

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Subject: Please support HB111 and amendments.

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:47:45 -0800

From: "Hollenbeck, Steve" <SHollenb@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, "Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

>

>

> Dear Sir:

> The RCA has unfairly given every advantage it can to GCI and that is
> breaking the back of ACS. I am sure every consumer could care less if ACS
> goes broke just as long as they get cheap dial tone. ACS work force has
> been reduced from around 2000 employee's in 1988 to 1125 today and that is
> still not enough for ACS to be profitable, (look at the stock price).
> That's a lot of good paying jobs lost, tax payers and voters. In this
> environment ACS does not have enough money nor has enough personnel to
> expand our telephone facilities for new growth, especially with GCI with
> their low interconnection fees waiting to take the customer after our
> investment has been made. Let's make the playing field level.
> As of this time our company has not taken the fight to the public as GCI
> has, so I am doing my part for you to understand our needs. Feel free to
> contact me if you would like to discuss this issue from an ACS employee
> point of view.
> Let's make the playing field level, please support HB111 and all it's
> critical amendments. Thank You

>

> Steve Hollenbeck
> OSP Engineer II
> ACS communications
> tel: 907-459-6474
> fax: 907-459-6460
> e-mail: shollenb@acsalaska.com

>

>

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Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HB111 AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 09:53:27 -0800

From: "Brown, Tana" <tbrown@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I AM IN SUPPORT OF THE HB111 AMENDMENTS AND HOPE THAT YOU CAMPAIGN TO HAVE THIS AMENDMENT PASSED. I AM AN ALASKAN VOTER AND RESIDE IN ANCHORAGE. AS A US CITIZEN I BELIEVE IN EQUAL AND FAIR COMPETITION FOR ALL. WITHOUT THIS AMENDMENT BEING PASSED THERE IS NOTHING EQUAL AND FAIR WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE DONE NOW. WHILE GCI IS ABLE TO GIVE \$3,000.00 BONUSES TO THEIR EMPLOYEES, ACS IS BEING BEATEN INTO THE GROUND IN EVERY WAY IMAGINABLE.

THANK YOU

TANA BROWN

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Subject: SUPPORT HB111 WITH ALL AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:55:10 -0400

From: "Karel Shaw" <karel@acsalaska.net>

To: "The Honorable Lesil L. McGuire" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

Karel Shaw
2334 Marian Bay Cir
Anchorage, AK 99515

May 15, 2003

The Honorable Lesil L. McGuire
House of Representatives
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative McGuire:

SCENARIO:

I have a first class shoe store called Happy Feet for 80 years.

Federal law says, oh no, you have a monopoly.

You must offer competition, and oh by the way, you need to make room in your store for BOBO Marcus to come in and sell your shoes. They can also buy your shoes at below cost & sell them to the public cheaper.

And oh by the way, if you want to have a sale you need to file for an OK. In the meantime, since BOBO can do what they want (because BOBO needs no OK's from anyone), they've already had the sale and sold at below cost ALL my shoes!!

And oh by the way, they can have access to your cash register & customer data base but you need to pay for the building, the utilities, the buyers and any new inventory.

And oh by the way, BOBO can accelerate their depreciation over 12 years but HAPPY needs to depreciate over 30 years.

LUDICROUS, STUPID, RIDICULOUS you bet it is!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

But exactly the way RCA treats ACS.

FAIR COMPETITION.....NOT REGULATION

PLEASE SUPPORT HB 111 WITH ALL AMENDMENTS

KAREL SHAW
2334 MARIAN BAY CIR
ANCHORAGE, AK 99515
907-522-5251

Sincerely,

Karel Shaw

Subject: Support HB 111 with amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:08:04 -0800

From: "Powell, Justin C." <jpowell@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for several years and I find the current situation to be in a downward spiral. The current regulations attempting to promote competition are destroying the infrastructures they are supposed to be creating. Instead of building new facilities and upgrading services the ILEC, ACS is afraid to spend their capital. There is no guarantee that ACS will ever get a return on their investment if GCI can simply do as they please in leasing these lines at a substantially reduced rate. GCI has even less incentive to invest in the infrastructure if they can make ACS maintain and install all their facilities then simply sit back and collect their money.

To have fair competition both sides should play by the same rules. There is no reason that GCI should get special treatment by the RCA. They continue to badmouth ACS about being a monopoly that only wants to raise rates, while they themselves are the largest monopoly cable provider in Alaska. I'd like to see the RCA regulate cable TV prices and let ACS lease GCI's cable network and see what happens. If GCI truly wants competition and not just a subsidy than lets pass HB 111 with all its essential amendments and let competition begin to work.

Justin Powell
Fairbanks, Alaska
(907)479-1214

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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Rachael E Herman-Timmons and I'm an ACS Employee. I have been here in Fairbanks, Alaska for 28 years, born and raised. My experience with ACS has been the greatest working experience I have ever had. I'm worried that with the unreasonable control over ACS by the RCA my job security is at stake. I can't see how ACS can survive when other competitors are not paying their fair share to use the network ACS builds and maintains.

When House Bill 111 passes Alaskans will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules.

As a supporter I ask you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB 111 and all its vital amendments.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Rachael E Herman-Timmons
Customer Service Representative

Subject: Please support HB 111 and all of its critical amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:23:35 -0800

From: "Rasmussen, Philene M." <PRasmuss@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I came to ACS in July of 1999. By taking this job I was able continue to live in my home town which I love dearly. Alaska is the kind of State that makes you feel secure and a place that I am proud to raise my family. Before I started working for ACS I had no idea of the kind of competition between the phone companies in Alaska. Or what incumbent and CLEC meant. After working for ACS over the past year I have become very familiar with what goes on behind the scenes that our average customer does not know. GCI might be the CLEC in Alaska, but they are fairly big out side of the Alaska. ACS is owned and ran in Alaska. If you were to look behind our logo you would see a sticker that said made in Alaska. You can't find that in GCI. I hear the question brought up all the time "how can we help Fairbanks and Alaska continue to grow" I have the answer, by having companies such as ACS. ACS is not just a company that only cares about making money, like some of our competitors. ACS is also a tight nit family orientated company. That supports it's employee & offers great benefits. The kind of benefits that help us stay in Alaska which is becoming more and more expensive to live in each year. Please don't get me wrong competition is also good, but only when it's fair. For years ACS has suffered for being the incumbent phone provider. With unfair rulings. This question keep coming up in my head. Why does ACS a company that supports Alaskan jobs & families continue to be punished. I strongly feel if the support for HB 111 and it's amendments don't happen, it will begin to cripple ACS. Is this the kind of statement our Legislator wants to project. That we should all bend over back wards to help companies like GCI and continue to get them the upper hand? What do they really give back to Alaska?? I know that ACS keeps jobs in Alaska which in the long run continues the flow of money back into our State. I truly think that if we don't start making amendments to some of the bills that will allow fair compaction it will jeopardize my job security and other ACS employees. Which in the long run will hurt our children more. I don't want to see that happen. I would like nothing more than to continue to live in Alaska. And know that when my children are grown, they also will have the chance to make Alaska their permanent home. Thank you for your time in reading my email and please truly look at what the cost would be if no amendments were to be made. Alaska can only remain strong if jok jobs are available to the people.

Thank you
Philene Rasmussem

<<...OLE_Obj...>>

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Subject: Please support HB111 with Amended proposal by Tim Anderson

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:20:09 -0800

From: gilbertc@acsalaska.net

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state

CC: "Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>

When Arliss Sturgulewski on a GCI ad., saying about special interest groups. Who are the special interests group here Arliss? Arliss is saying something that most people don't know what she is saying here. GCI don't have to phone cable lines and they are paying less than other for the use of that cable.

ACS has to share its products and services with competing companies like GCI, and this will encourage companies like ACS to spend on capital projects to improve advanced deployment of advanced telecommunications equipment to service Alaskans. This actually discourages companies like ACS to invest on NEW advanced telecommunications equipment to service Alaskans because ACS would have to share this NEW technology with competing companies like GCI, AT&T and TelAlaska and ACS would not a good return on their investment. Companies like GCI, do not have to invest on any capital projects and advanced telecommunications equipment to service Alaskans because they can get it from ACS for below cost. So why should ACS invest on anything. Your in business to make money, not share investments. Who ends up suffering? We Alaskans, the public.

Please support HB111 with Amended proposal by Tim Anderson

Gilbert Carrillo
8301 Majestic Dr
Anchorage, Ak 99504

Subject: HB111 and SB72

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:37:23 -0800

From: "Starett, Cindy" <CSTARETT@acsalaska.com>

To: ""Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for several years and I find myself in a situation where my company is not allowed to compete.... my job security, retirement, and my children's future are at stake. Please support HB 111 and SB 72 and all its critical amendments.

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly- GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years). What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. Would ACS raise its Local and/or Business Customer Rates by \$100 million annually? Of course not. Such action by ACS would drive customers to the competition. ACS would raise its interconnection fees so that GCI was paying a compensatory rate for use of the ACS Network. This is competition at work.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please vote to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Cindy Starett
1918 North Salem Loop
Anchorage Alaska 99508
907-561-8539

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Subject: HB111 and SB72

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:37:23 -0800

From: "Starett, Cindy" <CSTARETT@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "'Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>, "'Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, "'Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, "'Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, "'Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>, "'Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

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Subject: AMENDMENT HB-111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:38:57 -0800

From: "Walton, Vanessa" <VWalton@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I'm asking you to back this amendment. I am an employee of ACS and if this fails alot of people could be out of jobs. I am a long time Alaskan, single parent. Thank you for your consideration.

Thanks
Vanessa Walton

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Subject: HB 111 (WITH AMENDMENTS)

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:40:15 -0800

From: "Liebe, Brooke E" <Bliebe@acsalaska.com>

To: "representative_lesil_mcguire@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_lesil_mcguire@legis.state.ak.us>

May 15, 2003

Dear House Representative Lesil McGuire,

I have been an employee of ACS for 2 years now, I am 22 years old and I plan to stay with this company until I am able to retire. If you do the calculations you will clearly see that I still have many, many years ahead of me before that day will come. Unfortunately my dreams of having job security, a retirement to look forward to and an income to support my family are all at stake right now because the company that I work for is not being opted a fair chance to compete. Please support HB 111 with amendments.

It is impossible for ACS to survive as a company when GCI is operating under a completely different set of rules. ACS cannot compete with a company that is able to bundle together regulated and unregulated services thus offering lower prices to their customers. Due to this, ACS customers are none other than driven to the competition for this very reason. All that ACS asks is that GCI pay a compensated rate for use of the ACS network. This would be equal competition to both companies.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, the consumers of ACS will finally have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be in operation under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

I am a registered voter here in Alaska and I strongly urge you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this so very important legislation.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Sincerely,

Brooke E. Liebe

bliebe@acsalaska.com

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Subject: HB 111 (WITH AMENDMENTS)

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:40:15 -0800

From: "Liebe, Brooke E" <Bliebe@acsalaska.com>

To: "representative_lesil_mcguire@legis.state.ak.us" <representative_lesil_mcguire@legis.state.ak.us>

May 15, 2003

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It is impossible for ACS to survive as a company when GCI is operating under a completely different set of rules. ACS cannot compete with a company that is able to bundle together regulated and unregulated services thus offering lower prices to their customers. Due to this, ACS customers are none other than driven to the competition for this very reason. All that ACS asks is that GCI pay a compensated rate for use of the ACS network. This would be equal competition to both companies.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, the consumers of ACS will finally have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be in operation under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

I am a registered voter here in Alaska and I strongly urge you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this so very important legislation.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Sincerely,

Brooke E. Liebe

bliebe@acsalaska.com

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Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:41:02 -0800

From: "Lewis, Lori" <Lori.Lewis@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for many years and I find myself in a situation where my company is not allowed to compete.... my job security, retirement, and my children's future are at stake. ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless. GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please vote to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

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Subject: HB111 with amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:40:41 -0800

From: "Inskeep, Sherry" <sinskeep@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for many years and I find myself in a situation where my company is not allowed to compete... my job security, retirement, and my children's future are at stake. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless (the cable monopoly GCI- has been able to do this for over seven years). I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Would ACS raise its Local and/or Business Customer Rates by \$100 million annually? Of course not. Such action by ACS would drive customers to the competition. ACS would raise its interconnection fees so that GCI was paying a compensatory rate for use of the ACS Network. This is competition at work.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Thank you very much for your time
Sherry Inskeep

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Subject: HB 111 WITH AMENDMENTS

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:47:49 -0800

From: "Reese, Donna" <DReese@acsalaska.com>

Please SUPPORT HB 111 WITH AMENDMENTS.

I encourage you to represent me, my family, and my friends when you cast your vote on HB111. I urge you to SUPPORT HB111 along with the original critical amendments.

I am for FAIR competition for Alaska telecommunications companies; however feel very strongly that ACS has not received this fair treatment by the RCA. I have worked in the telecommunications industry for the past 13 years and have seen many changes, both good and bad. One of the saddest most unfair change I have watched materialize over the past years are the unfair rulings by the RCA which regulates stringent restrictive rulings over ACS but not to GCI. Thus, ACS has been seriously handicapped in being able to compete and offer our customers more competitive services and prices which GCI continues to be able to enjoy, and to offer our local communities.

In the past years, ACS staff, our families, and our friends have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, internet sites, and political arenas an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor... GCI. GCI who truly is the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost that ACS has incurred.

Again, I urge you to SUPPORT HB111 along WITH AMENDMENTS. By doing so, you will be supporting hundreds of local Alaskans and their families by not only helping to guarantee our job security, but also by truly allowing for fair competition within Alaska. Thank you for your support.

Donna Reese
2297 Outside Blvd.
North Pole, Alaska 99705
907-488-3721 HM
907-459-6461 WK

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Subject: support HB111 with amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:45:52 -0800

From: "Merry, Heather" <Heather.Merry@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

As a worker in the telecommunications industry, I am concerned with the issue of the RCA and the possibility of not passing HB111 with amendments. When ACS is required to lease its facilities at a fraction of the cost to maintain them, competition does not exist. When the RCA requires ACS to build new facilities to maintain GCI lines, how can ACS compete? The cost is falling on ACS, rather than the users of the facilities, GCI. ACS should be allowed to compete and function by the same rules as GCI. When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field. For the sake of jobs, work ethics, and industry competition (if the RCA would allow fair competition) the Alaskan industry could only benefit from passing HB111 and all of its amendments.

My family's livelihood depends on passing HB111 with amendments as written. My husband and I are both in the telecommunications industry and if the bill does not pass, it could affect our well being drastically.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition.

I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB111 and all its critical amendments.

Heather Merry
Alaska Communications Systems
600 Telephone Ave
Anchorage, AK 99503
hmerry@acsalaska.com
907-564-1001
907-564-1678 fax

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Subject: HB111 with Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 10:59:05 -0800

From: "Morris, Dennis L" <DMORRIS@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

I have lived in Alaska for 44 years and have been in the telecommunications industry for over 28 years and would like to take a little of your time to let you know how I feel about HB111. I would like to let you know that I believe this bill with all the existing amendments is crucial for this state to build a modern and viable telecommunications network. GCI has been treated like something special since the day they started to compete with Alascom in the long distance market. We need to have fair competition, not one company making its profits to the detriment of another. GCI is attempting to put a spin on this in the newspaper and radio that we shouldn't bow to last minute "special interest" amendments. GCI and their push to kill the amendments is to only real "special interest" in this mess and confirms this with the untold thousands of dollars spent on their add campaigns. GCI is the only monopoly left in this state with their cable company.

The ILEC is only asking to be given the same rules that GCI is working under. Some examples are:

1. GCI is able to depreciate their investment over 12 years; ACS is forced to use 30 years.
2. GCI can bundle all of their services together any way they want, ACS can not bundle regulated and deregulated items and need to get a tariff approved which GCI usually fights.
3. When GCI gets a line they are allowed to get the REA subsidy when they do nothing in the way of installing or maintaining cable facilities to serve the customer. This is sure way to destroy to benefits of universal service in areas of high cost.

I appreciate your time and I and my family who's livelihood depends on the outcome of this bill will be watching how this bill progresses.

Thanks for your time,

Dennis Morris
Alaska Communication Systems
Acting SWC Foreman
907-564-1906

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Subject: FW: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:07:26 -0800

From: "Rossback, Jewell G." <JRossbac@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

> My husband and I have been employed by ATU, PTI and ACS for at least
> 25 years. Being in the communication business for this many years, we
> have seen so many changes, some that are healthy and some that are not.

>
> We believe that ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules
> as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated
> and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and
> Wireless. GCI has been doing this for many years.

> Everywhere we turn, the news media is always against the incumbent.
> They help fuel the communications problems. Where is it fair that we
> should lease our equipment to GCI and they not have to pay what it costs
> to support it? Is it that our Representatives want to see the failure of
> competition or bankrupt one company where there will be no competition
> anymore??

> When House Bill 111 as amended passes, there will be real
> competition for the first time. This will allow service providers to
> offer their best deals because all the competing companies will be
> operating under the same set of rules.

> As a voter in Alaska for almost 30 years, I encourage you to vote in
> support of the House Bill 111.

> Thank You

> Bill and Jewell Rossback

>
>
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Subject: HB111, with amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:06:12 -0800

From: "Gamash, Pam" <pgamash@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I am an ACS employee who witnesses on a daily basis the negative impact to customers caused by the one sided regulation of phone service in Alaska. A situation being called "competition" by GCI is in fact has tied the hands of ACS. Current regulations force ACS to lease lines to GCI at a rate that is below the cost of maintaining the lines. There may have been a time when keeping the ACS giant in check seemed necessary, but that time has passed. ACS has lost 50% of the market share. The current situation also supports regulations that prohibit ACS from offering efficient customer service. Customers who wish to purchase ACS services must be passed to several departments because of guidelines set forth by the RCA. Customers who call GCI for these same services can speak to one person to receive several services with the blessing of the RCA. ACS representatives are not allowed to even speak about certain ACS products. This gives the impression to the general public that dealing with ACS is painstaking process. If the situation remains as it is today it is only a matter of time before ACS itself is a thing of the past. If ACS, the company that supports GCI & AT&T fails...then what will Alaskans do for phone service. Please level the playing field & help untie the hands of Alaskan Communications Systems, I urge you to vote yes on HB111, with amendments.

Pam Gamash

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Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:13:07 -0700 (PDT)

From: "Gerald S. and A. Linda Beyer" <gbeyer@rocketmail.com>

To: Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Ms McGuire:<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />

Thank you for taking the time to read my e-mail. I would ask you to consider supporting HB111 with the amendmen:s, rather than without.

I am an ACS employee, and have watched the RCA (APUC) rule consistently favor of GCI over the past ten years. There is at least one staff member who is a former ATU employee that bears ACS serious ill will, regardless of the merit of cases before them, and it's important to both competition and to fairness that the commission not be allowed to adjudicate w/o legislative review.

Trying not to be inflammatory, GCI has attained it's current market position by raising local cable rates (where they have the monopoly), and also by being subsidized by ACS' being forced to sell them core services well under our actual costs.

I believe that if the RCA persists in their historical approach, you will see the end of ACS.

I hope you will consider my concerns when your vote comes due.

cordially,

Gerald Beyer

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Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:21:58 -0800

From: "Robinson, L (Scott)" <LRobinso@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Good Morning,,,I have worked in the Telephone Industry in our great state of Alaska since 1974.I have seen many,many changes.Deregulation was a major change.Since then the consumer has been the one to pay.I feel compitition is very important,especially when it is on a fair playing field.I feel ACS should not have to subsidize GCI .This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost that ACS has incurred.Please support HB111 and all of its critical amendments.... Thank you very much for your time Scott Robinson

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Subject: FW: Pass House Bill 111 Including Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:30:27 -0800

From: "Dale, Kathy" <KDALE@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Dale, Kathy

> Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2003 11:20 AM

> To: 'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us';

> 'Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us';

> 'Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us';

> 'Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us';

> 'Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us';

> 'Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us';

> 'Representative_Max_Gurenberg@legis.state.ak.us'

> Cc: 'kdale@acsalaska.net'

> Subject: Pass House Bill 111 Including Amendments

>

> I have been an employee in the telecommunications industry in Alaska since
>

> 1989. I came into this industry when the model for public services was a
> monopoly. I am still here where the model for telecommunications is
> supposed to be competition. However, that is not the model that is
> operating. The incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) is treated as a
> monopoly and regulated by the RCA. The competitive local exchange carrier

>
> (CLEC) is allowed to set its rates with out filing rate cases, can bundle
> regulated and deregulated services and purchase regulated lines from the
> ILEC at \$10 less per month than it costs to maintain that line. I don't
> think the ILECs in Alaska are afraid of competition, but GCI most
> certainly is. GCI is spending a tremendous amount of money to keep the
> ILECs regulated. Ask yourself why? Support HB 111 including amendments
> and give the citizens of Alaska true telecommunications competition.

>
> Thank you in advance for your support in this effort. kd

>

>

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speak with the message sender. In addition, please immediately delete this
message and all attachments. Thank you.

Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:30:42 -0800

From: "Hanley, Abigail" <Abigail.Hanley@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Representative McGuire:

I have lived my entire life here in Alaska, and I had planned on staying here. However the Regulatory Commission of Alaska is now threatening my job security, retirement, and my future here in Alaska. Please support HB 111 with all of its critical amendments. I am very proud to be an ACS employee, and I want our company to survive. ACS treats it's employees and customers with great care and consideration. I find GCI's business practices despicable and yet they seem to be rewarded for being underhanded. Having been a cable customer (out of necessity not by choice) I have seen my rates get raised over and over again..... Where is the government when they do this?

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI. For example, ACS should be allowed to bundle together regulated and unregulated services such as local, long distance, Internet and Wireless. I have been fortunate enough to work in all of these departments and I have seen firsthand the way that our hands are tied. In order to set up a customer with Local, Long Distance, and Internet the customer has to be transferred to at least three separate departments. However if they call GCI, one rep is able to help with everything. How is this fair competition? I ask again that you support HB 111 with all of its critical amendments.

Thank you,
Abigail Hanley

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:32:26 -0800

From: "Simpson, William (Bill)" <wsimpson@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I urge you to vote for HB 111

WITH the amendments added by the House Rules Committee.

William L. Simpson

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Subject: HB 111 with Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:33:58 -0800

From: "Olson, Kirsten" <Kirsten.Oison@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Ms McGuire,

> I am writing you in regards to the HB 111 that is currently in debate. I
> think it is essential to both my own personal future, and the future of
> the telecommunications field in Alaska, that the HB 111 gets passed with
> all it's critical amendments. ACS should be allowed to complete by the
> same rules as GCI. I find myself in a situation where my job is at risk.
> If the RCA is allowed to continue as is, without the necessary amendments,
> I will not have a job in a few years. It is so vitally important to have
> the HB 111 as amended passed. Competition in Alaska has far surpassed
> what was originally intended with Telecommunications Act of 1996, and
> there is no need for the status quo to continue as is. I feel confident
> in saying that with the passage of the amended HB 111 that it will make
> the telecommunications industry even stronger in Alaska by making it a
> fairer market.

>
> I am very concerned about my job and my livelihood. I encourage you to
> represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important
> piece of legislation. Please support HB 111 and all it's critical
> amendments.

>
> Respectfully,

>
> Kirsten M. Olson

>
>
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Subject: HB111 & SB72

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:34:01 -0800

From: "Wilcox, Debbie" <dwilcox@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

PLEASE VOTE TO SUPPORT HB111 & SB72 WITH ALL OF THE
AMENDMENTS !

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "best" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition.

Sincerely,

Debbie Wilcox
P. O. Box 241493
Anchorage, Ak. 99524

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Subject: HB 111 as amended

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:34:35 -0800

From: "Brown, Philip C." <PBrown@acsalaska.com>

To: ""Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>, ""Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us"" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>

I am a testboardman for ACS, and have worked for GCI in the past. It would be fair to say that your action on the HB 111 will have a significant impact on my livelihood. I have seen the devastating effects of the actions of the RCA over the past few years on the financial well-being of my employer. Please enact this legislation with its amendments, in order to bring some sense back into the telecommunications industry in Alaska. Without these amendments, the current inequities are sure to do far-reaching and irreversible damage to not only ACS, but to Alaskan consumers as well.

Thank you for voting to ensure that telecom competition in Alaska benefits consumers as much as it has GCI over the past three years.

Phil Brown
Testdeskman
(907)564-1804
(907)561-0303 Fax

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Subject: Please Support HB111 With Ammendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:37:53 -0800

From: "Razor, Holly E." <hrasor@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.sta
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.sta
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.si

Dear Honorable Representatives,

My Name is Holly Razor I have lived here in Alaska since I was 5 years old. I am now 24 years old I work for ACS, before I worked here I never understood what competition really meant. Now I might be biased but what I see happening does not seem fair at all.

Right now all I see is a company taking advantage of unfair competition. By GCI using our lines that we have to sell to them at a cheaper price and them turning around and selling our lines to their customers at a even lower rate. Then us having to fix them for free! Where is the fairness or the competition in that. What is going to happen to all of the customers when ACS has to go out of business becasue of some unfair regulations.

Then not only will those unfair regulations have destroyed the lively hood of me and my family but others as well. I urge you to support HB111 WITH AMMENDMENTS. It is the fair and right thing to do. Compentition is fun and a great thing to witness, showing which company has better quaility and more innovative ideas but only if it is done fair. Please help us by supporting this.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Holly Razor
564-1123

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Subject: Support for HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:39:57 -0800

From: "Torkelson, Shari" <storkels@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

To my Legislators,

I am a registered voter and long time ACS employee.

I support HB 111 not only as an employee of ACS, but as a consumer of utilities.

GCI has been given the leading edge in communications by "unfair competition legislation".

This needs to be corrected and HB 111 and all its amendments is critical in bringing true

competition to Alaska. In my years here, GCI always advertises fair competition, when in fact

my experience been the opposite. Their court record is proof of that.

They monopolize the cable TV industry here in Anchorage! And their rates reflect that.

GCI has a fair share of the market.

They fought for years to prevent ACS from entering the long distance market.

We need competition to be fair!

Please support HB 111.

Shari Torkelson

Network Design Engineer

ACS Network Engineering

Phone 907-564-1844

Fax 907-564-8552

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Subject: hb111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:40:28 -0800

From: "Berkley, Stacy" <sberkley@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

I am hoping by writing you my concerns about the bill HB111 with amendments will be looked at seriously. My family has been apart of Alaska for over 75years they have seen things come and go. My family has been with this Alaska Company all of there lives so to see and hear the things that are happening to this company is dreadful. Unfair competition has to go, and by passing this bill will help do that. Alaska Communication System welcomes competition but it must be fair competition it must be equal. And if other companies want to use or resources they should be able to but they must pay a full price just like any other customer. So please don't be swayed by the negative ads in the paper by our competition but fight back and say "What's fair is fair" HB111 with amendments will be passed.

Thank You
Stacy Berkley

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Subject: HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:41:01 -0800

From: "Sylvia, Trena L." <TSylvia@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Representatives for Interior Alaska
And
House Finance Committee Members

Re: HB111

I would like to first take the time to thank you for reading my letter.

My request for you simply is to support HB 111 and all of its amendments. Over the last couple of years, I have noticed an increase in unfair rules and regulations limiting my companies' competitiveness. This makes it increasingly hard to maintain a level of job security for fellow co-workers and myself. We all offer a great deal to our community. I have establish myself in the community through my involvement in 4-H. Having raised two daughters in Fairbanks, and still having one daughter starting her 8th grade year; job security is a vital part of my families life. My family also provides horses for 4-H members in our community to use, to learn the value of working with animals. Again, this is something I could not do without my job.

I love working at ACS. Never have I ever worked for a company with so much compassion toward their employee's or customers. It would be a tremendous loss to Alaska if HB 111 did not pass with the amendments.

We must be allowed to compete fairly, by the same rules and guidelines as GCI. When House Bill 111 as amended passes, I feel, our state will for the first time have real competition in telecommunications.

My family as voters in your district encourages you to represent us when you cast your vote in this important legislation. Please support HB111 and all its critical amendments.

Thank you,
Trena Sylvia
Community Member
And
ACS Employee

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Subject: HB 111 WITH AMENDMENTS-SUPPORT IT PLEASE!

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:42:37 -0700 (PDT)

From: Michael Mandregan <mmandregan@yahoo.com>

To: Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Committee Members;

Please, bring fairness into this "competition".

I have been employed by ACS for 9 years. The reality of how negatively the RCA's unfairness has effected ACS' bottom line is hard to describe. We are honest hard workers here at ACS. We support competition. It is in my nature to compete, but competition is meaningless if the officials don't know or understand the rules of the game! I know what it's like to favor the "underdog". GCI is no underdog in this so-called regulated environment. Please pass HB 111 With Amendments.

Cordially Yours,
Dedicated Citizen-ACS Employee-Father of 2

Michael Mandregan, Engineer-Network Circuit Design

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:46:53 -0800

From: "Snisarenko, Shawn" <ssnisarenko@ascg.com>

To: <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

Ms. McGuire:

My name is Shawn Snisarenko and my address is 8441 Moorland St, Anchorage, AK 99502. First I would like to say that I am in no way affiliated with ACS, nor do I know anyone who works there. I am in favor of HB111 with the amendments pertaining to fair compensation for leasing the equipment of the primary carrier. I believe in competition in the market place; however, it needs to occur on a level playing field. It is not fair that ACS must compete with one hand tied with one hand tied behind their back. In fact, I continue to use ACS for my local and long distance phone service as a protest against this situation even though it costs more. GCI has some nerve to complain about this bill. They continue to hold a monopoly on cable TV and have no problem raking Anchorage consumers over the coals with the highest cable rates in the country.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Shawn P. Snisarenko

Subject: Requesting your support of HB111 with amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:54:06 -0800

From: "Neff, La'Net" <LNeff@acsalaska.com>

To: Anderson T <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>,
Gruenberg Max <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>,
Holm Jim <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
Les Gara <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
McGuire L <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>,
Ogg D <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
Samuels Ralph <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>

Since the initial ACS-GCI 'interim' interconnection agreement was signed, ACS has had regulations so stringent that we are not allowed compete in the local telephone service market. We continue to be considered the "incumbent LEC" for local telephone service, although we clearly have lost close to 50% of our market share in the Anchorage market-if not more! This did not happen yesterday, last week or even last month. We have been begging for relief for YEARS.

It is more than time to even the playing field and require GCI to compensate ACS for the costs of the services we provide to their customers. It is also time for ACS to be able to provide the same level of service to our customers as GCI does to theirs (Bundling services together, ease of business for our customer base, etc).

Our goal is to be able to proudly promote competition in the state of Alaska, we understand that this benefits the communities we serve, we simply want to be given the ability to be competitive.

We urge you to look at the FACTS about this issue and weigh them carefully. ACS and it's employees as well as our customers need your vote:

Please support HB111 WITH AMENDMENTS.

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 11:56:34 -0800

From: "John F. Jansen" <santaman@alaska.net>

To: Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us

I urge you to support HB 111 with current amendments. I do not believe that ACS should be forced to lease its facilities to GCI at a fraction of the costs. RCA's practices are skewed against ACS.

--

XX

John F. Jansen
P.O. Box 3609
8508 Highlander Circle
Palmer AK 99645-3609

Phone: 907/746-2963
Fax: 907/746-2964
email: santaman@alaska.net

XX

Subject: Fair competition?

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:03:16 -0800

From: "Moninski, Olga" <omoninsk@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.sta
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.s
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Representatives.

I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for twenty two years: sixteen of them in Russia and six in the U.S.A. (including more than three years for ACS.) I can tell you that competition is great: it keeps the prices down and pushes telecommunications companies to develop different features to attract customers.

However, it's difficult to call the situation we have now "competition" when one company gets special treatment. If ACS one day goes out of business, what will the State of Alaska have to say? That they didn't mean for it to happen?

Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments. Please don't favor one child over another one.

Best regards,

Olga "Olya" Moninski
ACS Engineering
(907) 564-1185 office ph.
(907) 242-9019 cell ph.
omoninsk@acsalaska.com
fax (907) 564-3447

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I support HB111 with amendments

Subject: I support HB111 with amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:06:33 -0700 (PDT)

From: jason werner <ja_wer@yahoo.com>

To: Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us, Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us

To all Representatives,

My name is Jason Werner, I have lived in alaska and been a resident for over 20 yrs. I support Alaska and fair competition in our economy.

I Support HB111 with amendments

Jason Werner
17622 N Juanita Loop
Eagle River, AK
622 1003\Cell 830 4004

Do you Yahoo!?
The New Yahoo! Search - Faster. Easier. Bingo.
<http://search.yahoo.com>

Subject: Support HB 111 WITH AMENDMENTS!!!!

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:09:29 -0800

From: "Wendy Eggleston" <laren.eggleston@acsalaska.net>

To: <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

I believe that we need fare competition in the telecommunications field. I believe that ACS formally ATU/PTI has suffered long enough. GCI had the better part of the Market share with going into new territories. I feel that isn't about time that GCI pays their fare share on the rates instead of getting the cream of the crop. I believe that the RCA should treat everyone as equals in the telecommunication field, Instead of giving provisions to the ones that they favor. Why should ACS customers suffer all the impact on the rates and pay more while GCI is getting a sweet deal that the RCA will not change??? They shouldn't. We all should be equal.

*Thank you
Wendy Eggleston*

Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:16:18 -0800

From: "Penny" <penny@alaska.net>

To: <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

I support HB 111 with amendments. My job at ACS, my career, my family's well being are at stake.

Thank you.

Penny Straka

Subject: Support HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:28:53 -0800

From: "The Helvies" <helvies@acsalaska.net>

To: <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>,
<Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

ACS should be allowed to compete by the same rules as GCI.

What we have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. I encourage you to support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

I have been to GCI's web site for "Fair Competition" and was dissapointed to see GCI trying to make ACS and AT&T out as the "Bad Guys. Forcing ACS to subsidize its competitors is not competition. Please vote for what is right.

I have attached a link to the Illinois State Legislater to let you see how they have delt with this issue.
<http://www.legis.state.il.us/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=093-0005>

Sincerely,

Roger Helvie

Subject: House Approves Nurse Incentive Program
Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:36:59 -0800
From: J D Wallace <JD_Wallace@Legis.state.ak.us>
Organization: Alaska State Legislature
To: lhscjdw+housemajlegs@legis.state.ak.us

Representative Peggy Wilson
District 2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 15, 2003
CONTACT: J.D. Wallace, House Majority Press Secretary (907) 465-5369

House Approves Nurse Incentive Program Debt Relief Will Help Bring More Nurses to the State

(Juneau)—The Alaska House of Representatives unanimously approved HB 211 by a vote of 37 to zero on Thursday. Sponsored by House Health, Education, and Social Services Committee Chair Rep. Peggy Wilson (R-Wrangell), HB 211 establishes the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program as an incentive to attract new nurses to the state and encourage Alaskans to pursue nursing vocations in Alaska. The program offers up to \$2,000 per year, not to exceed \$10,000 to repay nursing loans.

“Lightening a nurse’s loan repayment burden by even this modest amount should help attract more nurses to Alaska, and encourage Alaskans who are training to be nurses to stay here,” Representative Wilson said.

In 2002, the Alaska Colleagues in Caring, in collaboration with the Alaska Hospital and Nursing Home Association, surveyed the need for more nurses in Alaska healthcare facilities. Results showed that vacancy rates for RNs had increased from 5.7% in 2000 to 11.5% in 2002, with more increases projected for the future. Facilities in western and northern Alaska reported a vacancy rate of more than 20%.

The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development projects that the state will need 4100 more nurses in the next seven years, almost double the current demand. The University of Alaska and health care institutions in the state are cooperating to expand in state nursing education opportunities, and aim to double the number of nursing graduates by 2006. Wilson, who is also a nurse, said that Alaska cannot afford to wait any longer to provide financial incentives to bring more nurses to Alaska.

“The quality of our health care is clearly in danger because of this shortage, and our health care facilities are spending millions of dollars to hire visiting nurses,” Wilson said. “Our hospitals could spend those funds much more effectively on nurses who are committed to staying in Alaska communities.”

HB 211 moves to the Senate.

###

Subject: Amended HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:40:00 -0800

From: "Mathews, Ronald D." <RMathews@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Dear Representative,

My name is Ron Mathews, I have lived in Alaska for 46 yrs, born in Sitka and now living in Juneau. I am not a politically minded person nor have I ever written any of my political resources. I think it is time with the upcoming HB111. I believe very much in competition in the work place, and being a business owner I thrive on the opportunity to provide a better service than my competitors. What is happening between GCI and the local Telephone Co. has got nothing to do with fair competition, and being a Country that is providing a free equal environment for the 3rd world countries, it is deplorable to see what our government is allowing to take place right here in Alaska. I have a high respect for our political structure and the people who man the post. I guess what I really want to say here is that you, our people in office have an obligation before God almighty and than to the people you serve, to do what is right. I have read the ads in the Newspaper and heard the ads on the radio that GCI is putting out. I know the general public might not what is true or false, but you our Government does. Fair business would be for GCI to use its own Cable plant and sell its own service, and the local Telephone Co use its own Cable plant to sell its service. And the rules for the one have to be the same as the rules for the second. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THE AMENDMENTS BE STRIPPED OFF HB111 We so need an honest government

Thank you for listening

Ron Mathew

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Subject: Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:18:29 -0800

From: "Dykman, Michelle K." <mdykman@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.stat

Dear Committee:

I thank you for taking the time to read my letter, however I have to tell you, I have never taken the time to sit down and write to any politician. Like most people, I always thought it fell on deaf ears. But this time is different because it is in my back yard as they say.

So I am writing to you today in regards to the HB 111 W/ AMENDMENTS.

I am not just a voting constituent, but more importantly I am a CONSUMER.

And as a consumer I want to see fair competition and lower rates. (And in

case know one knows it.... you don't get lower rates without competition)

So as a voter in your district, I encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on this important legislation. Please support HB 111 and all its critical amendments.

What is the harm in allowing peoples voices to be heard over all the negative yammering from GCI. Which is another thing that really bother's me, the ads that GCI are allowed to air. They continue to bombard the airways with constant negative slanderous accusations of ACS, It pains me to have to explain these GCI ads to my 11 year old son when he ask's me what they are talki about. Especially when we as parents are trying to teach our children to be FAIR, MORAL & ETHICAL in their responsibilities to the community they live in.

(In case any of you have forgotten people learn by example.)

Another thing I don't understand is... If the Regulatory Commission was established to protect ME the consumer.... Then where were they when GCI raised cable rates several times & then went even further to FORCE consumer's to take their higher priced digital cable Service? This is what happened to my family when one of our cable box's went on the blip & GCI came out to fix it, I was forced to take their over priced digital cable service there was no other option's available to me. I think this kind of monopoly is outrageous, But I guess I should not worry since I do have the RCA to watch out for ME! This experience has once again sent the message that there is some kind of hidden agenda that the RCA must be trying to achieve.

I think competition is GREAT ... and absolutely necessary for our community to continue to grow.

If the general public would actually take the time to find out the facts surrounding the phone wars, any sane person would see that GCI is getting more than their fair share of the market at the high exorbitant cost to ACS. By leasing there facility's at 1/2 the cost.

I'm not sure but I think they have a name for people like that ... Swindler's?

So once again I would like to reiterate my strong feelings towards this issue. And since every problem has to have a solution & every solution has to have a starting place then start by leveling the playing field for fair competition and allow the consumer's to make a more educated choice as to which company they want to provide there service to them.

Thanks for listening.....

Sincerely,

Michelle Dykman
Wk # 564-1730

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Subject: Support HB111 WITH Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 12:57:25 -0800

From: "Colp, Larry D." <lcolp@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

CC: "Representative_John_Coghill@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_John_Coghill@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Hugh_Fate@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Hugh_Fate@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Jim_Whitaker@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Whitaker@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Honorable Representatives

Competition is fine as long as the playing field is level, which it presently is not.

It is like an auto dealership on best corner of the city established years ago. It is forced to lease show lot and service garage portion (until up to 30-40% of market) at a cost basis of averaged since dealership begun. The competition is then allowed to pass fliers out just outside gate encouraging use of competitive portion only. Leasing includes all except billing and collection since database of parts used by each customer still must be maintained with just note that it belongs to competition. When expansion is needed, it is required to be done and is accomplished but then competition gets to use added at previous lease value even if newest cost is 10 times original. This is not fair competition since competitor does not have to build similar or better to get customer. Let us use depreciation tables of FCC or Tax Code of economic life, not RCA mandated potential possible facility life.

I have heard of those building a new house being told to sign up with ACS and after the drop plowed into house and connected for a month to switch to GCI. Capital recovery at historic average.

What irked me the most to hear is that RCA commissioner during a hearing asked GCI what would be reasonable increase and the off-handed verbal response "just happened" to be very close to the result. By cost basis?

Losses to aid a competitor by sales below cost make sure that there is no money for capital additions for new features desired nor expansion to new subdivisions/business construction. From my perspective already there is not enough money for even basic infrastructure replacements before service loss. Further erosion will make the original establishing business bankrupt, which in this case will also kill the services of the competitor-without-infrastructure.

I am a non-management employee of ACS which is about ready to retire so am not trying to support my job. I just see the present RCA mandates to be wrong. I have been a member of the Republican State Central Committee.

I urge you to support HB111 WITH Amendments as best way to support citizen oversight while allowing proper cost recovery to provide services expected by citizens.

Thank you for your representation.

Larry Colp
456-5863r, 459-6285w

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Subject: HB 111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:02:42 -0800

From: "Congleton, Bruce M." <BConglet@acsalaska.com>

To: "'Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us'" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

As an ACS employee, I feel that the rules that we must comply with should also be followed by GCI. Being that this is not the case, the result on our part is large loss of revenue due to an unfair advantage. GCI in turn uses this to their advantage as a means of discrediting our company.

I am a very strong believer in the free enterprise system. Competition between businesses should follow the same guidelines as all other forms of competition, meaning that the same rules should apply to both sides.

Please vote to support HB 111 with amendments.

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Subject: HB111 with Amendments

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 17:10:49 -0400

From: "Mary Hughes" <MHughes@acsalaska.com>

To: "The Honorable Lesil L. McGuire" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>

Mary Hughes
9742 Reliance dr
Anchorage, AK 99507

May 15, 2003

The Honorable Lesil L. McGuire
House of Representatives
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative McGuire:

I am asking for your support on HB 111 with amendments. The competition doesn't have to follow the same rules as ACS. ACS should be allowed to charge the true cost for their facilities and the depreciation rate should be the same for all the telecommunication companies. ACS should be able to offer all their services & product to the customer with one phone call. The rules should be the same for every one. I am asking that you support HB111 with amendments so the rules are the same for everyone

Sincerely,

Mary E. Hughes

Subject: Bill # HB111

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:13:59 -0800

From: "Aldrich, Sunny" <sunny.aldrich@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us>

To whom it may concern:

I am very concerned about the outcome of bill HB111 with ammendments, and am writing to encourage you to support it. I have lived and worked in Alaska my entire life, and I feel that any attack on the infrastructure of our local and rural phone systems is a disservice to Alaskans. It is clear to me that the recent ad campaign and actions taken by GCI is intended to mislead the public so that they can continue to hold an unfair advantage over ACS and damage our ability to service the public. If the legislation is not passed that will allow ACS to charge our resellers what it COSTS us to offer subscriber lines, we will not be able to invest in new services for Alaskans. GCI now has a large enough market share for the telecommunications market here to be considered competitive. Therefore there is no reason to further limit our ability to do business. GCI's efforts to counter this legislation are self serving and will hurt Alaskans in the long run.

This isn't just about the future of me and my family. This is about the future of telecommunications in Alaska. Who would it serve for ACS to continue to sell lines under cost until we can no longer afford to do business? If we're out of business, so are our resellers. In the process, the infrastructure suffers from lack of resources to maintain it and the cost to recover from the damage would be staggering. That scenario benefits no one but GCI.

ACS is run in Alaska by Alaskans. Our ability to do business in this state affects thousands of jobs statewide. We should be allowed to compete fairly with GCI in order to keep our business healthy and to offer the best services and newest technology to Alaskans. The ACS companies pioneered service in Alaska and in the Wireless and long distance markets offer the only real local competition to out-of-state businesses like AT&T and GCI. Our financial future affects all Alaskans and the services that are offered to them. We're the only local choice in many markets for many Alaskans.

Please support Alaskan jobs and businesses by leveling the playing field and allowing us to business the way it's intended to be done - fairly.

Sincerely,

Sunny Aldrich

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Speak with the message sender. In addition, please immediately delete this message and all attachments. Thank you.

May 15, 2003

Dear Honorable Representatives,

My name is Stacie Byrns. I am a single mother and I work for Alaska Communications Systems. I am writing to you in hopes that you will support HB 111 WITH all amendments attached.

The reason that I am asking you to support this bill is not only because I work for Alaska Communications Systems (ACS), but also because without fair competition in the Telecommunications Area the customer (YOU and I) become caught in the middle. When there is a fair and equal competition field then WE come out on top.

I have always prided myself on being fair and just to everyone no matter what the situation as such when I see a full-page ad or hear a radio spot that is filled with untruths then I get upset. This political maneuvering is nothing more than an attempt to maintain a structure, which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred.

Why would ACS raise its Local and/or Business Customer Rates by \$100 million annually? Don't you think that this is a little opperserd? That would only encourage our customers to turn to GCI for service. ACS would raise its interconnect fees so that GCI was paying a compensatory rate for the use of the ACS Network. This to me would be a fair playing field.

When House Bill 111 as amended passes, then Alaskan telecommunications consumers will have real competition for the first time. Competition which allows all service providers to offer their "BEST" deals because all the competing companies will be operating under the same set of rules on a level playing field.

Thank you for voting FOR HB 111 WITH all amendments.

Sincerely,
Stacie Byrns
Sr. Clerical Specialist
Alaska Communications Systems
564-1929 work

Subject: FW: will you proof this.

Date: Thu, 15 May 2003 13:48:04 -0800

From: "Fifield, Donese L." <dfifield@acsalaska.com>

To: "Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Dan_Ogg@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Tom_Anderson@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Jim_Holm@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Les_Gara@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Pete_Kott@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Pete_Kott@legis.state.ak.us>
"Representative_Ethan_Berkowitz@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative_Ethan_Berkowitz@legis.state.ak.us>

CC: "Lt_Governor@gov.state.ak.us" <Lt_Governor@gov.state.ak.us>

> My name is Donese Fifield. I have lived in Alaska since I was 1
> years old (1971). I have 2 wonderful boys and a wonderful husband. My
> mother has also worked in the Telecommunications industry for 16 years at
> Alascom, and I have worked in the Telecommunications industry for six
> years. I am proud to have "Telephony" a part of my family, and who knows
> maybe my son's will grow up to be a line man, or Engineer in the same
> industry. If given the chance only if the industry's integrity can be
> saved.

I see a situation where my company is not allowed to compete on an equal and level playing field. Every day I process orders for a competitor that receives a substantial discount and manipulates an agreement that we (ACS) entered into in good faith to be in compliance with the Telecommunications Act. Our hands are tied and frankly this competitor doesn't even come close to being able to pay my wages for the service/s I/we provide for them routinely and on a daily basis. It is beyond frustrating and I hate to sound biased, I really do want to see fair competition.

> My job security, retirement, and my children's future are at stake
> here as well as the integrity of the Telecommunications Industry.
> Please support HB 111 and all amendments. As a voter in your district, I
> encourage you to represent my family and myself when you cast your vote on
> this important legislation.

> My fellow employees and I have run across a very peculiar concept
> UNE=Unbundled Network Element, this simple concept has so many definitions
> because the RCA is allowed to make up things as they go here in Alaska.
> There is no standard in the Telecommunications Industry regarding this
> UNE/UNE-P and the appropriate billing for this type of offering. It
> "certainly" DOESN'T even begin to cover the costs incurred by the
> incumbent LEC (ACS) which by the way we are barely holding a 50% margin
> these days on LEC customers in Anchorage and the similar scenarios where
> GCI has entered the Market. UNE I feel was an established standard until
> ACS was forced to allow a parasite to feed off under the guise of fair
> competition. Other states are trying to do something about this also. It
> absolutely is a HUGE issue and needs to be looked at from a different
> perspective. Would you order from Nordstrom and expect the same
> merchandise for a 26% discount that Sears sells theirs for? And then also
> expect Sears to deliver it at the same standards?

> What I have witnessed through full-page ads, radio spots, Internet
> sites, and political maneuvering is an attempt to maintain a structure,
> which requires ACS to subsidize its chief competitor, GCI, the cable
> monopolist. This subsidy takes root in lease rates that are a mere
> fraction of the true cost ACS has incurred. This is NOT right!!! NOR,
> would I in good conscientious "ever" state to the public "Fair
> Competition" is in place and working here in Alaska. I am proud to work
> ACS. If GCI wants to be a phone company and compete they need to become
> a Phone Company and do so, not rely on us to install "ALL" the necessary
> facilities to adequately support "their" customer base. As an employee
> who processes their orders let me tell you, they rely on us completely to
> much to provide not only the physical equipment to provide the service but

FW: will you proof this.

> also how to right there orders, and then complain when they can't right
> there orders correctly, that we are delaying service. They lie. That's all
> they know what do really well.

> They need to be in the field doing what ever is necessary to get
> there own customers and not have access to our customer base via
> "electronic process" and other methods in which makes the concept of fair
> competition a complete joke. Not to mention the fact they pay a fraction
> of the cost to cover any of the facilities they need ACS to provide,
> install and work for them. We even have to face GCI's so called
> "customers" in the field when installing service, for what I might say
> most customers in Juneau and Fairbanks didn't know they ordered and sent
> us away. What's wrong with that picture?

> I love my job, and my community and being able to provide my family
> a secure future with the fact I have a STABLE job, that pays well and has
> wonderful medical, and other benefits, Including being a member of the
> IBEW. Which adds to my pride of what I do.

> It is imperative for government officials in Alaska to recognize
> their is a problem with the current RCA as it stands, and to make the
> level of playing field fair to allow more consumer choice, and more open
> competition, It must move forward to a deregulatory framework, Also to
> quit subsidizing one competitor over another. Support HB 111 AND ALL
> Amendments.

>
The local economy can not afford to have high paying, stable jobs lost. Or
better yet who will do GCI's work when we have little to no staff due to
layoffs because we are paying for and maintaining their Infra-structure to
compete against us >?

I realize this is long and appreciate all you're time, really I do.
Please keep fair competition "FAIR" and Standard!
Not to mention my cable bill certainty hasn't gone down, and I have no other
"choice" for cable service, other than getting A dish, which has less
standards for choices than cable, where is the competition in that?

> DONESE FIFIELD
> PROUD ACS BUSINESS SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
> 564 7972
> 564 1444 FAX

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