

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES, 2003-2008 86/2

11567 HOUSE RESOURCES

Kodiak Game Ranch

Po. Box 1608 Kodiak AK 99615

research in the state to my knowledge is virtually nil. So maybe they could utilize some of it for Ag research, along with Rocket research, but I suppose that's really wishful thinking.

A couple of years ago the University also wanted 1,200 acres along the beachfront at Narrow Cape, including Pasagshak Point for purposes to subdivide into lots, much like they did at Saltery Cove, where they took 60 acres out of an existing livestock lease, so they could sell it. Why is that a land grant University, which is supposed to support agriculture, mining etc, would take land from an established agricultural farm or ranch, and use it for a land sale to make money for the University, when it is supposed to support the agriculture they are in fact hurting? Isn't that a contradiction to their stated purpose?

I would like to say, that the KLC has been a good neighbor, allowing our grazing lease to remain and have helped us in various ways. Furthermore, I'm an ex Navy man, and I do believe we need the 'Star Wars' research that President Reagan first envisioned, as we do indeed live in a very dangerous world and definitely need an anti-missile defense program. However, I don't see where that qualifies the University to take 2,880 acres out of an existing grazing lease that has been in existence for over 60 years, possibly endangering its future existence, **unless there is a provision to protect and renew the lease and possibly utilize some of their research to further the livestock industry here in Kodiak along with the rocket research.**

Sincerely,

Bill Burton

February 9, 2005

To: My Representative: Peggy Wilson

House Resource Committee:

Jay Ramras co-chair, Ralph Samuels co-chair, Jim Elkins, Carl Gatto, Gabrielle LeDoux, Kurt Olson, Paul Seaton, Harry Crawford, Mary Kapsner

Subj: HB130

Dear Representatives:

My name is Jim Slater and I have lived in Lisianski Inlet for the past five years. I am a commercial salmon troller and utilize the area for business. I have also made my home here because of its natural beauty and the subsistence opportunities it provides. The University of Alaska Land Grant threatens my way of life and my business.

I strongly oppose this bill for what it is are trying to do and how the legislature is handling it.

More specifically I oppose the bill because:

- 1) This bill will directly and significantly affect the majority of Alaskans. The public was first able to view the content of HB130 on Monday, January 7th. The first hearing was today, two days later. The fact that it is being pushed through the legislature so quickly does not allow the public enough time to understand and to comment on it. If as our elected officials you are interested in what your constituents have to say, then why can't you give us time to comment? What's the rush?
- 2) The amount of land being transferred in Lisianski Inlet is over 1000 acres. That is significantly more private land than is currently in the inlet. The affect that this big a change will have on Pelican, its surrounding communities, and the environment is unstudied and unknown. The Northern Southeast Alaska Land Usage Plan has been recently completed. It went through a public process in which myself and some of my neighbors participated in. As I understand it, the University will not be required to observe any of elements in the plan. To transfer any of the land without regard for what the local community needs or wants is wrong. The impact that the increased population density will have could very well damage our subsistence and business activities. In general, this will make it a much less desirable place to live and work.
- 3) ST1002 covers from Sunnyside to the south end of town. Most Sunnyside residents have land directly behind their houses that will be affected by this transfer. Many use the land for a water supply and an access to the Tongass for subsistence activities. I personally use the land for subsistence activities.

- 4) MF 1001 is in a place where I moor my boat, It provides the most immediate refuge for someone coming into Lisianski from Cross Sound in rough weather. It is also a place where I sell fish.

I officially request:

- 1) That we SLOW down this process to allow a suitable public comment period.
- 2) That ST1002 and MF 1001 are eliminated or substantially reduced in size. If the latter is the case this must be done with public involvement.
- 3) That this comment be included in the HB130's file.

Thank you for considering my comments and for truly representing the wishes of the Alaskan people by rejecting this bill.

Sincerely,

James C. Slater
P.O Box 63
Pelican, AK 99832

Rebecca Rooney

From: Ronald Dick [redick@pci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 2:17 PM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Subject: land transfer

Dear representative Wilson:

My family has a home and wilderness lodge at Sunnyside near Pelican, AK (in Lisianski Inlet). I am opposed to the proposed land transfer being fast-tracked by Gov. Murkowski. We need slow this process down so the public can be more involved. I am particularly opposed to the transfer of Mite Cove in Lisianski Inlet. This area should be left undeveloped for several reasons. It is an important anchorage for the commercial fishing fleet in Cross Sound. It is used as a heavy weather refuge and as an overnight anchorage during fishing season. This is also a very important subsistence site for the local residents, especially the Native residents. My family uses this area for seaweed. Also, this area should be left undeveloped in order to be consistent with the upland use of wilderness. I am sure that most of the people who live in Lisianski Inlet do not know that this transfer is being planned. Thank you for your consideration of my input. Ronald Dick

From: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2005 8:19 AM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Subject: RE: House Bill 130

From: Rick Fleischman [mailto:Capt-Rick@soundsailing.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2005 4:55 PM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Cc: Sen. Bert Stedman; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner
Rep.Mary.Kapsner@legis.state.ak.us
Subject: House Bill 130

Dear Peggy,

Thank you for your support on our concerns about House Bill 130. I'm glad to hear that the plan is being modified to include some of the public input given at the House Resource committee meetings.

As we discussed briefly on the phone, there is some concern regarding the hot springs in Warm Springs Bay and the possibility of damaging or even losing the springs completely in the event of major development; specifically in regards to the operation of heavy machinery and/or blasting.

My understanding from talking to people who know a lot more about geology and hot springs than I do is that thermal springs bring heated water from below the earth's surface to the springs we enjoy via fissures in the earth's crust. Geothermal hot springs are relatively fragile in the regard that blasting or other vibrations from heavy machinery can collapse these fissures preventing the hot water from reaching the surface.

Because of this, Tenakee Springs has an ordinance prohibiting blasting within 20 miles of the springs there. Around 1895, some people in Tenakee decided it would be a good idea to enlarge the spring, which comes out of a rock near the shoreline and is now right in the middle of town across from the general store. The easy way to enlarge the rock pool was to blast it with dynamite which some of the miners in town proceeded to do. After blasting, the new pool was much nicer. The only problem was that the hot water stopped flowing to it. Fortunately for Tenakee and all who have visited there since, the hot water started running again after a few weeks. It's important to note that this was a small scale blasting--only clearing rock about 4 feet X 8 feet and about 5 feet deep.

As the hot springs at Baranof (Warm Springs Bay) are one of the major reasons the area is valued so highly by local residents, fishermen, and visitors from around the world, any risk of damaging or losing the hot springs is of the utmost concern.

I have also heard talk of faults around Baranof Lake. As far as I know, there has not been any

2/13/2005

extensive geologic mapping in the area. There was a feasibility study by the state considering building a road from Sitka to Warm Springs Bay. On page 10 of the study dated March 8, 1996 by Lachel and Associates, I found the following reference:

"A major fault runs just north of, and parallel to, the proposed highway and tunnel route."

On page 49, the same study recommends, "The location, orientation, and characteristics of the fault lying to the north and parallel to the tunnel line must be determined and assessed for its potential effects on the tunnel construction."

I did find a geological map of Baranof Island showing faults at:
<http://www.dggs.unr.state.ak.us/scan1/p/oversized/P0792pt02.PDF>.

On Plate 2, there is a major fault north of Warm Springs Bay that runs on an east/west orientation from Mt. Edgumbe all the way to Chatham Strait just north of Warm Springs Bay. I assume that this is the fault discussed in the feasibility study. The plate also shows an approximate position of the Medveje Lake fault that runs east/west and ends near the south shore of Baranof Lake.

I don't know if you have visited the hot springs here at Baranof. If not, you should put it high on your priority list because they are truly an incredible treasure. I have traveled extensively and have never seen a more beautiful scene than the thermal pools surrounded by the rain forest overlooking the glacial fed, class 5 rapids of the Baranof River. It is truly a world class spot and we must protect it! Thank you for your efforts to make sure that the 276 acres of land in Warm Springs Bay is removed from the list of parcels to be transferred to the University of Alaska in House Bill 130.

Sincerely,

Rick Fleischman

1802 B Alder Way
Sitka, AK 99835
747-7473

Note: I am currently caretaking at the Baranof Warm Springs lodge and can be reached on a cell phone here--206.605.8363.

Rebecca Rooney

From: Marty&Laurie [marty.remund@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2005 7:33 AM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson;
Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Jim Elkins
Cc: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Subject: NO to UA Land Grant HB130

House Resource Committee members:
Thank you for hearing testimony yesterday on HB130.

I believe the University of Alaska is an excellent institution of higher learning which deserves full funding from the State of Alaska. However, even IF land grants *were* an appropriate way to fund the University (they are NOT), DNR's nomination of such utterly inappropriate parcels would make this bill unworthy of going any further than your committee.

For example, the 267 acres selected in Port Alexander (which currently occupies about 128 acres) include the community's entire watershed: the collection basin, water tank, pipeline, chlorinator shed, backup reservoir, and boardwalk access. This water system cannot support 267 acres of new development. This is reflected in DNR's Area Plan, which, regarding these parcels, states that "development is not considered appropriate given uncertainty over the need for additional land in this remote fishing community and the ability of the City of Port Alexander to provide public services". It is unclear why DNR would select these parcels after correctly concluding that they should not be developed. In fact, the Port Alexander Planning Commission is currently working on issues related to growth and our water system capacity, and was before the issue of UA lands was even imposed upon us.

Additionally, these parcels are absolutely essential subsistence hunting areas. They enclose Port Alexander on all sides, and considering the rough waters of Chatham Strait during most of the hunting season, are often the only option for putting food on the table. The importance of hunting cannot be overstated: *subsistence IS our economy*. If your perception as committee members is that people feel threatened by this legislation, then good, you are getting the point. Development on these lands would directly jeopardize the ability of Port Alexander residents to feed our families. You can expect us to be passionate about that.

Laurie Mastrella
Port Alexander

Douglas Owen

From: Norm & Linda Carson [nlcarson@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2005 5:29 PM
To: Sen. Bert Stedman; Rep. Peggy Wilson; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Jay Ramras
Cc: Warren Wiley; Tim Whiting; TnJBurke@aol.com; Mai, Lou Strahm; Deb Spencer; Snyder, Larry; Jim Slater; Terri Schomer; Kim Ross; Fred Reeder; Bill Ray; Claude Owen, Caroline Odell; John & Sari Monagle; Mig Miles; Malcolm McGregor; David Kensington; Ed Kalwara; Greg & Donica Jerue; Brown Simon II; Randa Heimbigner; John Glass; Joanne Giendenning; Joe DeTemple; City of Pelican; Scott & Amy Carson; Roy Campbell; Richard Burton; Bruce & Judy Bowler; Bruce Bauer
Subject: University Lands Bill a Bad idea

University Lands Bill a Bad Idea

The recent discussion of HB 130 in the House Resources Committee demonstrates that transferring high value public land currently utilized for recreation, subsistence, tourism, or other commercial uses is poor public policy. If you reside in Juneau, Haines, Hoonah, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, etc. you may have hunted or recreated in lands slated to be given to the University. These include but are not limited to vast tracts of land around Tenakee, Pelican, Idaho Inlet, Mite Cove/Ewe Ledge, etc. If you live elsewhere in Southeast you better stay informed on HB 130 as most assuredly land you utilize is affected.

The University is anxious to receive these lands as they will then become private property and can be disposed of with much less oversight by the University. Joe Beadle, (U of A), in testimony stated that the University would be able to react much quicker to "market forces". In other words, a wealthy speculator could make an offer and purchase land in large blocks without going through a public bid process. There are no requirements in HB 130 that land be subdivided into home site lots for Alaska residents. Donald Trump could buy his private Alaskan retreat and post the property with no trespassing signs.

To make matters worse, this State legislation would pave the way for Senator Murkowski to pass Federal Legislation offering up another 260,000 acres in matching Federal Lands to be passed on to the University. If we are having this much difficulty in agreeing upon State land to be transferred, can you imagine the fur ball we will have over another 44,000 acres out of the Tongass?

I do not believe we should lock up our land to never be developed; however, giving it to the University to dispose of is not responsible. Land in our rural areas should be made available for purchase by Alaska residents for home sites, in discussion with the local communities, in lot size consistent with existing lots, and in small numbers over a lengthy period of time so that all generations may participate.

In a State with 30 billion dollars in the permanent fund I find it incredible we are even discussing HB 130. Personally, I would much rather see a portion of the permanent fund be allocated to an educational endowment. An endowment would cause everyone to pay a little bit as would future generations. The University offers an educational opportunity to every family, therefore everyone should contribute. In the meantime rural land disposal can proceed in a rational manner.

Norm Carson

PO Box 98

907-735-2460

2/18/2005

Pelican, AK 99832

907-321-1950

Douglas Owen

From: Jesse Remund [jessman160@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2005 8:24 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsnor; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Oison
Subject: Concerned

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jesse Remund and I am writing in regards to the 250,000 acres of land being offered to the University of Alaska. First off I would like to express that I am very against the idea. I was raised in Port Alexander from a baby until the age of 16. My family has been living off of the land there for over 25 years. I was raised hunting deer and gathering wild plants to help feed my family. Every one in the community has depended on the forest around the town for hunting, gathering, and recreation for as long as Port Alexander has been a town. If this large area of forest is given to University of Alaska it will deprive the community of the natural and replenishing resources that everyone depends on for living. Please hear my concern. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jesse Remund

Douglas Owen

From: Rick Fleischman [Capt-Rick@soundsailing.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2005 4:55 PM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Cc: Sen. Bert Stedman; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner
Rep.Mary.Kapsner@legis.state.ak.us
Subject: House Bill 130

Dear Peggy,

Thank you for your support on our concerns about House Bill 130. I'm glad to hear that the plan is being modified to include some of the public input given at the House Resource committee meetings.

As we discussed briefly on the phone, there is some concern regarding the hot springs in Warm Springs Bay and the possibility of damaging or even losing the springs completely in the event of major development; specifically in regards to the operation of heavy machinery and/or blasting.

My understanding from talking to people who know a lot more about geology and hot springs than I do is that thermal springs bring heated water from below the earth's surface to the springs we enjoy via fissures in the earth's crust. Geothermal hot springs are relatively fragile in the regard that blasting or other vibrations from heavy machinery can collapse these fissures preventing the hot water from reaching the surface.

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I have also heard talk of faults around Baranof Lake. As far as I know, there has not been any extensive geologic mapping in the area. There was a feasibility study by the state considering building a road from Sitka to Warm Springs Bay. On page 10 of the study dated March 8, 1996 by Lachel and Associates, I found the following reference:

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fault lying to the north and parallel to the tunnel line must be determined and assessed for its potential effects on the tunnel construction.

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<http://www.dggs.dnr.state.ak.us/scan1/p/oversized/P0792pt02.PDF>.

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I don't know if you have visited the hot springs here at Baranof. If not, you should put it high on your priority list because they are truly an incredible treasure. I have traveled extensively and have never seen a more beautiful scene than the thermal pools surrounded by the rain forest overlooking the glacial fed, class 5 rapids of the Baranof River. It is truly a world class spot and we must protect it! Thank you for your efforts to make sure that the 276 acres of land in Warm Springs Bay is removed from the list of parcels to be transferred to the University of Alaska in House Bill 130.

Sincerely,

Rick Fleischman

1802 B Alder Way
Sitka, AK 99835
747-7473

Note: I am currently caretaking at the Baranof Warm Springs lodge and can be reached on a cell phone here--206.605.8363.

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

From: Rep. Peggy Wilson

To: lhscwls+hb130@legis.state.ak.us

Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2005 12:19 PM

Subject: HB 130 Update

I am so glad that you all have taken time out of your schedules to keep abreast of developments with HB 130.

In response to the outpouring of testimony, The Resource Committee has suspended public testimony for HB 130. The Committee is going to roll up their sleeves and work with DNR and the University to create a modified plan. Some of the changes will be handled with amendments to the bill and some of the changes will be handled by agreements with the stakeholders and the University. Once the changes have been fleshed out they will be released for public review. This review process will include public testimony. HB 130 is expected to be on the House Resources Calendar on March 2, 2005.

2/17/2005

Melinda Hofstad
PO Box 1030
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Rep. Jay Ramras, Co-Chair
Resources Committee

Dear Chairman Ramras:

I commend you and your Committee for recognizing the need to do some major reworking of HB 130. I have been waiting to testify and have not yet had the chance to do so.

I am a 30-year property/home owner in Baranof Warm Springs Bay. Our village is a century old and is 15.4 acres of private land. Many of the lots are unbuilt and some are for sale. HB 130 proposes to add an additional 267 acres of private land directly adjacent to our town. This exchange has been proposed with absolutely not one bit of input from anyone who lives there. We don't want input after the University has the land with the intent on making a profit on it. We wanted and deserved input before it ever was put on this exchange list.

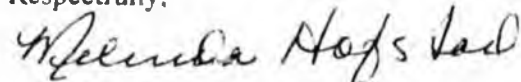
This is an unsuitable site for selection in the first place. The majority of this property is wetlands and steep fiord type terrain, and has already been assessed by DNR to be unsuitable for home sites, which seems to be exactly what the University plans to do with it.

Baranof Warm Springs is part of the Sitka Borough. The Sitka Assembly held a Special Meeting on Monday night and unanimously voted to oppose this bill. They understand that they cannot possibly afford to provide the sewer and water systems, schools, docks, harbors, fire and police protection, etc. that this kind of development would require to a remote community 100 miles from Sitka.

Please, amend this bill and remove the Baranof Warm Springs Bay parcel and add a piece of property that is not adjacent to an already existing community.

And finally, please consider that in the case of Baranof you would be taking a century old village of 15 private acres, and adding an additional 267 acres of development to it with absolutely no input from those of us who already live there. I ask you to think how you would feel if someone in a bureaucracy somewhere, arbitrarily increased the size of the community where you and your family live by 18 times and you have no say until after the fact. And that's not even guaranteed in this legislation.

Respectfully,



Melinda Hofstad

Douglas Owen

From: William M. Hopkins [hopkins@kpunet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: HB 130

The Honorable Rep. Jay Ramras:

I have been watching your hearings on HB 130. It is infuriating to see the possible give away of beautiful state lands to a less than responsible University of Alaska. I am a lifelong Republican, but only need to look at Slide Mountain north of Ketchikan to see what university land management means. Slide Mountain was clearcut from top to bottom directly behind the D-1 Loop neighborhood and in plain view of the Totem Bight State Park. The University of Alaska had no regard or consideration for the residents who live below nor on the viewshed of the state park.

They secretly sold a large parcel of old-growth timber to a logging company behind a residential neighborhood at Mountain Point south of Ketchikan. It too was mostly clear cut, with no regard to the local residents who now have to live with the mess. To add insult to injury, all of this timber was exported in the round to the Pacific Far East while our local mills stave for timber.

The next time you fly to Anchorage, weather permitting, you might want to look down between Icy Bay and Cape Yakataga to see what University of Alaska land management means.

I stand opposed to HB 130 and any giveaways of state land to the University of Alaska. They are bad stewards and not trustworthy to be gifted with undeveloped land.

Sincerely yours,

William M. Hopkins
12810 Snowberry Lane North
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Douglas Owen

From: Norm & Linda Carson [nlcarson@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2005 6:41 AM
To: City of Pelican; Craig Loken; Carol Seymour; Karen & Victor; Patricia Phillips; Steve & Jill Daniels; Terry Wirta; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels
Cc: David Kensinger; Jeanne; Mig Miles; Caroline Odell; Claude Odell; Fred Reim; Tim Slater; Deb Spencer; Sen. Bert Stedman; Mary Lou Strahm; Kathie Wasseman; Peter Wilson; Terri Schomer
Subject: Lands Bill Delayed
Attachments: House Panel Holds Off On Lands Bill.doc

Thank you to everyone that took time to comment on this bill, we have a temporary reprieve while the bureaucrats huddle to come up with another version of HB 130. I called in on last Monday to the House Resource Committee teleconferenced hearing and was on the list to testify. There were so many people wanting to testify that they were going to continue on with the hearing on Wednesday. It appears that after Monday's two hours of public testimony, so adamantly against this bill, they decided to regroup, rewrite the bill and try again on March 2nd.

HB 130 was bad enough, but the idea that an additional 260,000 acres of Federal land Statewide could be matched with HB 130, if Sen. Murkowski could get the Federal legislation passed, is even more alarming. From the testimony it appears that HB 130 was needed as a matching land bill in order for the Federal Bill under the Senator to proceed. The Federal Bill could jeopardize lands we thought protected under the last Tongass Land Management Plan, parts of Lisianski that are now protected as being part of the Tongass could be selected to be given to the University for future funding.

I am not one to lock up our land from any future development, but I would like to see it proceed in a rational manner, in such a way that offers the most benefits to local residents, has local input, and is consistent with historical local land use. In the past the State has disposed of small parcels of land close to Pelican, for development as residential or recreational homesites; that seems appropriate.

I was disappointed in the manner this land bill was presented to the communities. HB 130 was announced in a news release by the Administration on a Saturday, details were made available to the public on Monday, (if you had a computer), the bill was then introduced on Monday in House Rules with its first public hearing on Wednesday of the same week.

The State should take an approach the Forest Service uses when considering land use changes in the rural areas. The Forest Service will publicly announce the policy and then visit the affected communities with maps in hand to clearly explain the options. At the very least the State should have sent every affected community a set of maps depicting the lands they proposed to give away adjacent to that community. Relying on folks to find the DNR website, then find the list of geographical areas, and then identify them as being close to their community was not right. For example; under Pelican only two of the three parcels was listed. The Mite Cove parcel was listed separately, the first time I opened the DNR site I missed it. I sent an e-mail to DNR asking if there were any other sites beyond the two that were in Lisianski Inlet, the e-mail was never responded to by DNR.

Thank you again to you folks that commented or supported the positions of those that did.

Norm Carson

2/17/2005

PO Box 98
Pelican 99832

2/17/2005

Douglas Owen

From: Doris Bailey [dorie@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 10:53 PM
To: Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Paul Seaton
Cc: Sen. Bert Stedman; Rep. Peggy Wilson; Hugh Bevan; Jessica Perkins; John Littlefield; Kevin Ritchie; Kathie Wasserman
Subject: HB130/SB96

Ladies and Gentlemen of the House Natural Resources Committee: I am a member of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka. I attended the hearings you held on Monday February 14 and Wednesday February 16 in order to testify on the above bills but was not called upon. I am glad our mutual constituents from Warm Springs Bay were able to discuss some of the issues with you but feel there are other parcels within the City and Borough that deserve equal time. The Sitka Assembly met in emergency meeting the evening of February 14 to take public testimony and to decide on an official opinion. The following is a unanimously approved letter addressed to the Honorable Frank Murkowski. My personal comments follow this letter:

The Honorable Frank Murkowski
 Governor of the State of Alaska
 PO Box 110001
 Third Floor, State Capitol
 Juneau, Alaska 99801-0001

Dear Governor:

The City and Borough Assembly of Sitka met for a special meeting on February 14, 2005 to discuss the issue of University Land Transfers. We would like to take this opportunity to oppose HB130/SB96 in their present form.

The properties for transfer are integral parts of the communities of Baranof Island, and this action could have incalculable detrimental effects on these communities. We believe the City and Borough of Sitka would be better served if these properties are left intact so that the Municipality could have better oversight as to their issues.

As this proposal has come as a surprise to us and gives us little or no opportunity to respond we respectfully request that this process be slowed to a more appropriate pace. This would allow the affected communities to hold public hearing and pass resolutions in response.

More specifically we are opposed to the transfer of Middle and Biorka Islands, Lisianski Point, Baranof Warm Springs, and Port Alexander. We are supportive of the University obtaining the parcel of land that the Sitka Campus resides on. **Furthermore, it is our hope that the State reconciles the land transfer proposals with existing approved State and local land management plans. We are also concerned with the possibility of incorrect maps, disputed Native allotments within the proposals, and the impact on subsistence activities.**

It is worth noting that there was no public testimony favoring these bills; and we do not support them proceeding. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marko Dapcevich, Mayor

cc: Senator Bert Stedman
 Representative Peggy Wilson

My own personal comments: 1. Lisianski Point surrounds the Littlefield parcel at Dog Point where the Littlefield's

2/17/2005

have conducted subsistence and total immersion cultural activities teaching the young people and people with addictions along with whole families from early spring through late autumn how to live a Tlingit life style. They are heavily supported by the entire community both white and Native. The kind of development which would make the property under consideration financially viable would substantially impact the Dog Point Camp. 2. Biorka Island is 16 miles out at the head of Sitka Sound with nothing to the west of it but the Pacific Ocean. Any development there seems extremely unlikely. The FAA removed all the equipment out there and removed the four families living there because of the cost of maintaining residences. However, there are several FAA facilities (radar, TACAN, etc.) in use on Biorka and I would suspect there would be a security issue should the southeast side be developed in some way. There would also be the danger of FAA facilities deterioration should there be people on the island. Has the FAA been consulted? Cost, in addition to better technology, was a factor in the Coast Guard removing the Loran station that was located there until the middle 80's. The side of the island being considered completely surrounds a disputed Native allotment of the Walton family. At one time when the FAA was quartered out there I saw official charts of the island with that parcel specifically delineated. My husband received a phone call about this during this past 3 or 4 months so the claim appears to be active. I am sure the Tribe could be of more help with this issue. However, any meaningful development seems a very remote possibility at this time. This seems true of all the parcels in the City and Borough of Sitka. Development of parcels within distance of the road system and utilities have proved to be almost uneconomically possible because of terrain and wetlands which makes remote parcels even more questionable. Development of these remote parcels do not lend themselves to any kind of economic viability. It seems to me that the only possible interested buyers would be persons wanting to develop some kind of tourist lodges for use six months a year. This will still require an enormous outlay and will impact significantly the recreational and subsistence uses of all these parcels.

I respectfully request that you work with local officials and citizens' groups including Sitka Tribe of Alaska to locate appropriate land for the University. And I would also mention that the University also owns in Sitka the only tract of land that has any possible use as development for residences. We are already in public hearing and discussion to determine how the City and Borough of Sitka can acquire that parcel so that we will have land for the future. There simply is NO land available for building homes for our citizens. We have been squeezed by many entities: State, Federal, Mental Health Trust, University, Native corporations and land for private use is not available.

Doris Bailey
dorie@gci.net

There are three truths: my truth, your truth, and the truth. -Chinese proverb

Douglas Owen

From: Claude Odell [lfcak@ptialaska.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 9:22 PM
To: Representative_Peggy_Wilson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels;
Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Paul Seaton;
Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner
Subject: HB130

To: Peggy Wilson (My Representative), and the House Resources Committee:
Jay Ramras (Cochair), Ralph Samuels (Cochair), Jim Elkins, Carl Gatto, Gabrielle LeDoux,
Kurt Olson, Paul Seaton, Harry Crawford, Mary Kapsner

From: Claude K. Odell, Box 616, Pelican, AK 99832

Phone & Fax (907) 735-2232

Email lfcak@ptialaska.net <mailto:lfcak@ptialaska.net>

2/16/2005

Subject: HB130

Dear Representatives,

I've never been much of a writer. I've never written a letter to a Representative or Senator in my whole life of sixty years, but HB130 has me so stirred up that I think its time to express my opinion against Governor Murkowski's brilliant plan to fund the University.

I was born in Juneau, but moved to Pelican in 1956. My father was a longliner, and at the age of 12 started fishing halibut and black cod. I moved to Sitka in 1969 and resided there until I moved back to Pelican in 1989. I went from Longliner to Tug Boat Operator to Carpenter to Gen.

Contractor in those years, but I just couldn't stay away from Pelican and its lifestyle. I've been here in Pelican ever since. I've been hunting and fishing, since before statehood, in areas designated for and adjacent to the lands that are being offered to the University. This would jeopardize the life style of myself and all the other local residents, who have grown to love the whole area around Pelican and Lisianski Inlet.

I've built or worked on probably 80% of the buildings in Pelican and Lisianski Inlet. In fact most of my work now is outside of Pelican but still in the Inlet, so I have a real feel of what this area is comprised of and by whom. Everyone is against this Land Liquidation of Governor Murkowski's and I feel that this should be put across to all the representatives in the strongest words.

Thank You For Your Time,

Claude K. Odell

Douglas Owen

From: Brennans [brennans@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 10:03 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: HB 130

Representative Ramras,

Thank you for the generous allowance of time to those testifying about the Warm Springs Bay parcel at today's (Wednesday) hearing. You were personally gracious in weathering criticism of the process by some who have been frustrated by it thus far. I am hopeful, as are others with obviously heartfelt concerns about a large property conveyance in Warm Springs, that the upcoming round of DNR/University review of the public input will result in a land grant program which will be accepted, rather than hated by affected Alaskans.

Jim Brennan
1006 G St.
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
274-7808(h) 279-5528(w)

2/17/2005

Douglas Owen

From: Barry & Kathy Bracken [bbsea@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 3:12 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux;
Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner
Cc: Sen. Bert Stedman; Rep. Peggy Wilson
Subject: Written testimony on HB 130

To: House Resource Committee Members

RE: HB 130

Dear Honorable Members of the House Resource Committee,

Because of scheduling conflicts, I have been unable to attend the hearings on this bill either in person or by teleconference. Please accept this e-mail message as my testimony and add it to the Bill Record.

I am a longtime resident of Petersburg and currently a member of the Petersburg City Council. Although I am representing myself, because of my position on the Council, I get a lot of feedback from the community. Needless to say, there is a great deal of concern over the transfer of state lands to the University of Alaska. The most common complaints fall into three primary categories, as follows:

- 1. Public process.** Citizens of our community are very concerned that there was no public involvement in the selection of the lands. The University representatives who gave their presentation in town essentially said, "This is the package. Take it or leave it." This is not the way citizens of Alaska are used to being treated, especially in matters as important to the people of the state as this one is.
- 2. Future citizen involvement.** Participants at the University presentation were told that it would be the University's intention to maximize profit from the lands, not to establish the best long-term public good. Again, this runs contrary to past practices of considerable citizen involvement and many residents are concerned that they will be left out of any decision making process, regardless of the potential impacts on communities or resident's lifestyles.
- 3. Concern over specific parcels.** I have also heard a great deal of concern over several specific parcels which are included in the proposed exchange. In our area, the greatest concern is over the Whitney Is. and Read Is. parcels. At one time, both of these areas were included in proposed DNR land disposals, but were withdrawn because of overwhelming public opposition. The prevailing sentiment is that these areas should not be disposed of because of their high recreational and commercial value as intact public lands. The concern is that with less constraints and an abbreviated public process, the University would not be as sensitive to public input.

The third parcel which could impact Petersburg is the Neets Cr. watershed parcel near Ketchikan. The Crystal Lake Hatchery on Mitkof Is. is currently being operated by The Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association under contract to the Dept. of Fish and Game. This hatchery supports several sport fishing lodges in our area. If anything happens to jeopardize the Neets Bay Hatchery, which is the flagship of the SSRAA aquaculture system, then their ability to continue operation of Crystal Lake Hatchery could also be in jeopardy. Conservative estimates place the annual value of the Crystal Lake Hatchery to the Petersburg area economy at nearly \$2 million.

2/17/2005

With these concerns being expressed, I request that this bill not be passed out of committee, at least until the communities of the state have an opportunity to hold public meetings and to collectively provide input regarding the potential impacts of this legislation. Besides the concerns expressed above, as an alumnus, I think this legislation has the potential to put the University of Alaska into an adversarial role with the citizens of Alaska. This is not in the best interest of either the University or the people of the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Barry Bracken

cc: Senator Steadman, Representative Wilson

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February 17, 2005

Chairman Jay Ramras
Chairman Ralph Samuals
House Resources Committee
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Ak

Mr. Chairmen,

There was not enough time to give my testimony at yesterday's hearing on HB 130. So I am sending it to you in writing.

My name is John Peckham. I have resided in Ketchikan and commercially fished since 1975. I am on the Board of Directors of SSRAA and I currently serve as vice president.

I am against the area around Neets Creek being selected for the University of Alaska's land grant.

As you know the watershed and waterfront at Neets Creek help produce millions of salmon that improve southeast salmon fisheries. The economic activity that surrounds that production is an important contributor to Ketchikan's economy. It is hard to imagine a better use for this land. It does not make sense to give it to an organization that would need to use the land in another way.

Any other use of the watershed or the available water is not worth the risk to the hatchery's production and survival.

SSRAA is a non-profit organization. We are currently 9 million dollars in debt. If there was any money to be made from a usage of the waterfront that was compatible with our hatchery we would have already thought of it and implemented it, since we are always struggling with achieving our goals of providing common property fish and meeting our financial obligations.

Having a landlord whose obligation is to make as much money as possible from the land for their own funding is not compatible with SSRAA's goals

I urge you to do what it takes to deselect the Neets Creek parcel from the University's land grant list.

Thankyou.

FACSIMILE FORM

FEB 16 2005

Barry Bracken
P.O. BOX 1201
Petersburg, AK 99833

PHONE/FAX: (907) 772-3736

E-mail: bbsea@gci.net

Web site: <http://www.petersburglodgingandtours.com>

TO: House Resource Committee
Alaska State Legislature

DATE: Feb. 16, 2005

NO. PAGES: 2
(Including cover page)

RE: Written Testimony on HB-130

This is a follow-up of written testimony I sent to individual members of the House Resource Committee via e-mail. For some reason, Rep. Elkin's message was returned and I'd like to make certain he receives the message. Personnel at our Legislative Information Office suggested that I FAX the message to the committee as well.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

To: House Resource Committee Members

RE: HB 130

Dear Honorable Members of the House Resource Committee,

Because of scheduling conflicts, I have been unable to attend the hearings on this bill either in person or by teleconference. Please accept this e-mail message as my testimony and add it to the Bill Record.

I am a longtime resident of Petersburg and currently a member of the Petersburg City Council. Although I am representing myself, because of my position on the Council, I get a lot of feedback from the community. Needless to say, there is a great deal of concern over the transfer of state lands to the University of Alaska. The most common complaints fall into three primary categories, as follows:

- 1. Public process.** Citizens of our community are very concerned that there was no public involvement in the selection of the lands. The University representatives who gave their presentation in town essentially said, "This is the package. Take it or leave it." This is not the way citizens of Alaska are used to being treated, especially in matters as important to the people of the state as this one is.
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With these concerns being expressed, I request that this bill not be passed out of committee, at least until the communities of the state have an opportunity to hold public meetings and to collectively provide input regarding the potential impacts of this legislation. Besides the concerns expressed above, as an alumnus, I think this legislation has the potential to put the University of Alaska into an adversarial role with the citizens of Alaska. This is not in the best interest of either the University or the people of the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Barry Bracken

cc: Senator Steadman, Representative Wilson

Douglas Owen

From: Alaska Passages [info@alaskapassages.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2005 2:58 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: House Bill 130

FEB 23 2005

February 21, 2005

Dear Representative Ramras;

I am glad that you were able to give people time to testify on House Bill 130 last week, even though the Bill had been pulled from consideration pending some rewriting. Many people had waited a long time to testify and had worked hard on their testimony. Letting people air their concerns goes a long way towards earning their trust in public process.

I wish to respond to your closing remarks at the end of the teleconference, when you said that House Bill 130 sought to find ways for people to own private land in Alaska. I agree with what you said that ownership of private land is important. When local people own the lands they live on it forms a strong sense of community and pride of place.

I do not believe that House Bill 130 is going to do that however. The lands that are going to be sold in remote settings such as Whitney Island by Cape Fanshaw or Sanford Cove in Endicott Arm are too remote for community settlement. At best, they could be used for seasonal vacation cabins. In selling these properties off for this purpose, the University may realize a small profit but in the meantime would be privatizing public recreation lands. The Central/ Southeast Area Plan has designated Sanford Cove, Whitney Island and Read Island in Farragut bay as "Ru or undeveloped recreation". These are "areas that offer a high potential for dispersed recreation or tourism". The Plan goes on to say that these lands "cannot be sold to individuals".

Lots of time and research went into the Area Plans to come up with those land designations. It does not make sense to arbitrarily change the plans for convenience sake, or to make a buck. That shows lack of vision and a lack of respect for the planning process.

So what would be the point in offering remote parcels like these to the University for sale? They would be unable to realize much profit on them without going against land use planning designations which would be very unwise.

I am also concerned with the University getting 2000 acres of Mitkof Island. Petersburg is looking to form a borough and this land would come out of the land my community wants to include in our borough. Let us have that land and we can sell it off to help defray the huge shortfalls that our local school systems are facing.

As I have said in earlier testimony, the University will only realize 1% of its annual income from these properties if they sell. It is not enough money to warrant the trouble this will cause throughout Southeast Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie Hursey
Box 213
Petersburg, Alaska

Christine Marasigan

From: Pam Foreman [pforeman@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 10:44 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Cc: Sen. Gary Stevens; Christine Marasigan; Tuck Bonney; Tom Abell; Pat Branson; Nancy Wells; Mike Anderson; Cecil Ranney; Barbara Williams; Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: HB 130

Hello Representative LeDoux -

I wanted to share a few thoughts on HB 130. I'm not sure I will be able to be at the LIO today for the scheduled hearing, but perhaps you can share these thoughts with your committee members.

Although I was relieved to read in last night's paper that the University doesn't intend to sell the Narrow Cape land identified in the Governor's bill for transmittal to the University, the fact is that there are no guarantees that a sale won't happen at some point in the future. As you know, there is very little public land accessible by road in Kodiak. The land identified in HB130 represents a segment of public land that is important to local residents for hiking, beach combing, fishing, bird watching and wildlife viewing. I would hope that the committee will identify existing trails, roads and other easements on this land within the legislation, guaranteeing for future generations that the land and waterways will still be accessible to the public.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pam Foreman

Christine Marasigan

From: Barbara Rudio [brudio@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 11:14 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Sen. Gary Stevens
Subject: Narrow Cape

I am unable to attend the HB 130 teleconference this afternoon, but want to pass on my opinion.

I urge removing the Narrow Cape parcel from the land transfer to the University system. Although University spokespersons have indicated that the parcel would be treated as educational and say that it would be unlikely it would ever be sold. We need to remember all the things we were told about the launch complex that would never happen -- and most of them have happened.

This parcel is vital to the recreational activities of Kodiak residents and visitors. We have so little public land on the road system.

Thank you -- Barbara Rudio, 486-8369

Christine Marasigan

From: Beverly Horn [bevjack7@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 11:14 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Sen. Gary Stevens; Rep.Jayramras@legis.state.ak.us
Subject: Fw: Narrow Cape

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

From: Beverly Horn
To: Gabreille LeDeoux@legis.state.ak.us ; Gary Stevens@legis.state.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 11:50 AM
Subject: Fw: Narrow Cape

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

From: Beverly Horn
To: Ledoux@legis.state.ak.us ; Stevens@legis.state.ak.us
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 11:44 AM
Subject: Narrow Cape

Please be advised that we do not support SE 36 nor HB130 pertaining to land at Narrow Cape. That is just a sneaky way of getting around the problem with AADC.

Also, we do not want to see this land closed to the public at any time. We have never supported AADC and especially do not now. They have lied to Kodiak residents time and again.

Please do not support this maneuver! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beverly and Louie Horn P.O. Box 15 Kodiak, Ak 99615
(or bevjack7@gci.net)

Christine Marasigan

From: rosemary mcguire [ftrdm@uaf.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Narrow Cape

Dear Ms. LeDoux,

I am writing to urge you to help remove the 3,000 acre parcel at Narrow Cape on Kodiak Island from the bill transferring state lands to the University. This land is economically and socially important to the people of Kodiak. If the land is given to the university there is a strong likelihood that Kodiak residents will lose access to it, considering the ongoing controversies surrounding it.

Many of us see this bill as an underhanded way to develop state lands without input from the people of Alaska. Anything you can do to mitigate its blows to local communities would be appreciated.

Thankyou,

Rosemary McGuire
574-68-4631

Christine Marasigan

From: Skimin, David PO2 [DSkimin@CGAlaska.uscg.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 8:05 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: AADC

Mrs. Ledoux

I am in grave concern with the proposed land transfer to AADC via UofA. The land to be allocated is a heavily used area and is visited year-round. Please concenter the communities requests and ensure the committee reviews the outcome from the land use survey that was taken from DNR.

Very Respectfully

David Skimin

Christine Marasigan

From: Mike Sirofchuck [msirofchuck@kodiak.k12.ak.us]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 8:05 AM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LoDoux; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner
Subject: Please remove "Kodiak Rocket Range" from HB 130

The land designated "Kodiak Rocket Range" should not be conveyed to the University. First, the name is incorrect and a misnomer. This parcel is listed on maps as Narrow Cape; is it NOT a "rocket range". The AADC structures on this land are individually fenced off and connected by a single road; they do not sprawl all over the parcel. This parcel is the only large parcel of land connected to the Kodiak road system that is available for public recreation. Most other land adjoining our road system is in private hands, including Native land claims. It is vital that this area be kept open for public access. Regardless of what the University may say, once they own the land, there is nothing to stop them from selling it to AADC and effectively closing it to public access. Both the University and especially AADC have been very closed to public input on use of their lands. It should be clear from the number of comments coming from Kodiak that the community does not support this conveyance. Please support the wishes of our community. Please find another parcel of land to substitute for this one. Thank you for your consideration.
Mike Sirofchuck
Kodiak, Alaska

Christine Marasigan

From: barbara [browndog@ptiaialaska.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 7:53 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: oppose bouse bill 130

I oppose the governors plan to by pass local government land us planning efforts by the transfer of land to the University of Alaska

2/9/2005

Christine Marasigan

From: Patrick Saltonstall [pgsalton@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2005 7:50 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Cc: Sen. Gary Stevens
Subject: Narrow Cape Land

Dear Gabrielle and Gary,

I am sure you are getting a number of emails on this one! Here is my take. The people of Kodiak really do not have all that much public land on the road system - most of it is owned by Lesnoi and other private entities. That land could be developed or have access restricted at any time. This is why the Narrow Cape area is so important. It is public (state owned) land that any one can drive out to and enjoy. 7,800 acres is a huge percentage of all the public land on the roads system. I really do not trust the Rocket launch and UAA on this one, and would hate to see access limited to this highly valuable recreational area.

Perhaps the UAA people could choose another area? Perhaps down on Sitkinak or out on the Kupreanof Peninsula? Or if they absolutely have to have the Narrow Cape Land could it be put into the deed of sale that access can not be restricted in any way and that the borough gets first right of refusal on any land sale. Personally, I would be worried even about the latter. They would probably shut the area down in the 'interests of national security'.

Narrow Cape is a gem, and a great place to recreate. I always take visitors out there to walk the beaches. And make a migration out every spring to watch whales. Please keep it State Owned. While State owned at least the public has some sort of oversight on the launch complex. I fear the day there is no oversight and access.

Thanks,

Patrick Saltonstall
PO Box 3533
Kodiak, AK

Christine Maracigan

From: edward gonddek [edbud@theriver.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 6:37 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Sen. Gary Stevens; Laurie Madsen; Peggy Jean Smith
Subject: Fw: HB130
Attachments: "AVG certification"

Here are my comments sent to Dr. Bob to be read into the record tonight since I am unable to attend.

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

From: edward gonddek
To: Dr. Bob Johnson
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 8:34 AM
Subject: HB130

Please read into the record tonight for me at the hearing since I can't be there.

Please remove Narrow Cape from bill HB130. We the people of Kodiak are who lives here and we are the caretakers of this wonderful Island. The AADC should not be who regulates our access to Fossil Beach and Narrow Cape. I have more good memories than I could possibly say about my times roaming this area. What I really object to is the fact that Mark Hamilton is the President of the Uof A system and the Chairman of the Board of AADC as well. How can we possible get a fair deal when he is involved in both sides of the possible future land transaction. This should be conflict of interests, none of which include a fair deal for Kodiak citizens. I urge Ms. Ledoux and Mr. Stevens to work to remove Narrow Cape from this bill. The AADC doesn't own Kodiak, YET. Rose Cobis Box 2875 Kodiak Ak 907-487-2507

Christine Marasigan

From: v34@gci.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2005 6:31 AM
To: Christine Marasigan
Subject: HB 130 comments for Rep. LeDoux

Dear Gabrielle:

I believe that it is in the best interest of our community that the lands designated "Kodiak Rocket Range" be removed from the list of state lands to be conveyed to the University of Alaska.

While there are provisions for public input if the University decides to sell, the bottom line is this:

once the University has title to the land, they can do whatever they want.

Despite any assurances, there is no guarantee that they will not sell it to AADC. It is not improbable to think that Senator Ted Stevens could find federal dollars to finance AADC's purchase of Narrow Cape.

If the land cannot be removed from the list, guarantees should be written into HB 130 that the land cannot be sold or developed in violation of Borough codes and comprehensive plans.

It could be written into the bill that the land be used for research only and must remain in the hands of the University.

Thanks for your efforts to protect the interests of our community.

Mike Sirofchuck
Kodiak

Christine Marasigan

From: Daniel Rohrer [DRohrer@GCI.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 9:14 PM
To: Christine Marasigan
Subject: *****SPAM***** House Bill 130. Narrow Cape Land

Christine,

Please forward this to Gabrielle. You are welcomed to read it.

Thanks
Dan Rohrer

Gabrielle,

I normally don't voice much of an opinion about things that are discussed in the editorial pages of the Kodiak Daily Mirror. I always read them and watch with some amusement as people get very worked up over a wide variety of issues. I have read the editorials through the years between AADC and "concerned" Kodiak citizens. I have questioned all along why everyone was getting so worked up. We were told up front that it would not require much land and that there would be very minimal closures if any at all. The upside was of course economic. I am usually always a supporter of new money being brought into the community.

I am now concerned with where I see this UA land transaction headed. AADC has made it clear that they want large portions of land under their control to allow for a viable rocket launch facility in a post 911 world. I assume there is some validity in that statement. I can at least understand where they are coming from. The problem is that the people of Kodiak have clearly stated that they don't want to see that land closed at all. I am one of those people. I enjoy having the freedom to go to the Narrow Cape area and camp or ride horses, etc. I have found great enjoyment in doing that through the years and I would like to see my children be able to do the same thing in the future. The land transaction is giving UA an asset that they can use for the "betterment" of their program. I recognize the value that the Poker Flat Research Range has been but I don't foresee them needing a similar situation in Kodiak. The land would be "educational property" but that doesn't preclude them from selling or at the very least from controlling access and selling that control. I know that UA is quoted in today's Kodiak Daily Mirror as saying that they "can't imagine why they would sell it." UA's spokesperson Ripley then goes on to say "there is no promise that they wouldn't (sell), but there would need to be a compelling reason for the university system to sell." I would suggest that a large amount of money is a very compelling reason to sell. Also allowing closures for a price is very compelling. When attempting to balance a tight budget a lot of things become fair game. I am also concerned about the obvious conflict of interest that Mark Hamilton has in this situation. I know that Ripley goes on to say that any land sales would have an open public process. This doesn't mean they wouldn't happen. In light of the fact that this land exchange is on a fast track through the legislature and the majority of us in Kodiak found out about this today I would suggest that Hamilton's power is not something to be underestimated. Being the president of both boards means it is not lost on him that there is a huge potential advantage for both organizations. Apart from the citizens of Kodiak, others will probably look at any deal between UA and AADC as a mutual win for both organizations. The only people I see losing are the people of Kodiak.....

Gabrielle I am not sure what influence you will be able to have over this bill but I think this bill is one of the exact reasons we have representation in Juneau. I hope that you are able to get the 2,880 acres of state land in Kodiak removed from this land giveaway. There is plenty of other land in the state and even here in Kodiak that could be given without the attached controversy and obvious conflicts of interest.

Thank you for representing us.

Dan Rohrer

PS. I hope you are enjoying the job.

2/9/2005

Christine Marasigan

From: hank [hankh@gci.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 8:32 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Cc: Richard MacIntosh
Subject: narrow cape

Hi Gabrielle

We do not need this land transfer of the Narrow Cape lands to the U of A. In fact I would like you to introduce a bill making this land a State Park with Burtons able to use their land until their lease expires if not longer. This transfer is an under the table move to remove these lands from public access. I would like your staff to research who is responsible for this inclusion of these lands in the transfer.

My idea of a State Park would secure access to these beautiful beaches and wonderful wild land for future generations and would let the AADC have the original 270 acres that they have now and put control of the road in the State Park's hands so they would have the responsibility of closing it before launches.

Please let me know what you think.

Thanks
Hank Hagemeyer

Christine Marasigan

From: rskinner1 [rskinner@ak.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 10:57 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Narrow Cape Land Grant

Dear Gabrielle,

As a citizen of Kodiak and life-long Alaska Native resident I am concerned about the inclusion of Narrow Cape acreage in Governor Murkowski's proposed University of Alaska land grant. I am very concerned that traditional use of Narrow Cape lands will be further restricted or eliminated when the land enters private ownership. In addition, because the issue of public access to Narrow Cape has been hotly debated in Kodiak this land grant appears an attempt to circumvent further public participation in this land use issue. The fact that University President Hamilton is also on the AADC board of directors creates an impression of impropriety, since an obvious bidder for the land would be AADC as operators of the Kodiak Launch Facility. Other than making you, as my Representative, aware of my concerns and reservations about this proposed land grant, what is the most effective way to participate in the decision-making process?

Thank you,

Rebecca Skinner

Christine Marasigan

From: Deb Spencer [dspencerak@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 6:36 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Gabrielle LaDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Mary Kapsner
Cc: Rep. Peggy Wilson; Sen. Bert Stedman
Subject: HB 130

Dear Chair Ramras and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my concerns about HB 130 and its implications for Pelican, my home of 15 years. I am also writing to request that the House Resources Committee schedule additional hearings on HB 130 to allow for greater opportunity for public comment.

At first blush, this legislation appears to be designed to take the public out of public process. Concurrent referrals to both bodies and short committee lists indicate to me that this bill is on the fast track. Please don't be a rubber stamp. Allow the public process to be just that, public.

I have many concerns about the impact of HB 130 on Lisianski Inlet. My husband and I are partners in a small fish-buying business. Our community's fishing economy is directly connected to healthy streams and forests. The University of Alaska has not shown itself to be a good steward of the land. There must be a better way to fund higher education.

I am unable to attend tomorrow's hearing either in person or via phone due to other commitments. Public notice was so short that I believe many may find themselves in the same predicament. Further, I'm not sure I could educate myself satisfactorily to provide substantive and relevant comment on the proposed legislation at tomorrow's hearing. Please schedule additional hearings on this bill to allow members of the public - all legislators' constituents - an opportunity to weigh in on this important legislation.

Thank you for your careful consideration.
Sincerely,
Deb Spencer
Owner, Shoreline, Inc.

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Christine Marasigan

From: John Witteveen [wclodge@gci.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 4:51 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Narrow Cape

Gabrielle,

This is a good test of your first year in office. Get Narrow Cape out of the hands of the University so it doesn't end up in the hands of Pat Ladner. I was a firm believer in the rocket launch site when it started but as far as I am concerned now they can shut that place down. Thanks, John

Christine Marasigan

From: Lynne Murphy [hiddenbasin@starband.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 3:00 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: HB 130

remove the Narrow Cape parcel from the Land Grant bills if the bills do not provide BETTER protection for public access in the future.

Christine Marasigan

From: mike litzow [mike_litzow@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 1:33 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Narrow Cape

Gabrielle - I am very concerned that the proposed transfer of lands at Narrow Cape to the University will eventually result in the loss of public access to the area. I realize that all parties involved will say the right things about continued access, but Pat Ladner is on the record (in his recent letter to the Governor) saying that the ultimate goal of AADC is to prohibit public access to the site. Ladner and AADC have a long history of dealing with the public in bad faith, and I am concerned that this transfer is part of an attempt to circumvent the public process on Narrow Cape access.

Many of the recreational lands in Kodiak are privately owned by Native corporations, and could be closed to public access, which makes state land on Narrow Cape even more important. I would appreciate your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely, Mike Litzow

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Christine Marasigan

From: Roger Smith [watsmith@ptialaska.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2005 12:45 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: HB-130

Gabrielle:

I object to including the Narrow Cape parcel in the proposed land transfer to the University via HB-130. The University has no land management expertise, except selling out the resources as fast as possible. This looks like another case of incest, with ex-military man, Mark Hamilton, getting a fine opportunity to sell out our public access to the rocket launch and to private interests to build the University kingdom.

The DNR is not the greatest advocate of public access under the last couple of governors, but at least there is a public process. The University sold that Saltery Creek parcel on Ebay, for god's sake, with little or no formal public review. In the long run, I think the legislature should strive for more control of how the University uses its lands, at least assuring there is some interagency review of wildlife and fisheries values before selling or leasing.

As a kid who grew up wandering the shortgrass prairie, I am getting increasingly claustrophobic on this Island as our extremely limited road-accessible public lands shrinks.

Thanks for your consideration.

Roger B. Smith
PO Box 2473
Kodiak, AK

Christine Marasigan

From: Postmaster [Postmaster@tenbears.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 12:03 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Narrow Cape lands, transfer bills SB 96, HB 130

Representative Ledoux

I urge you not to endorse any legislation that includes the transfer of Narrow Cape lands to the University of Alaska for any reason, whether it be for the sale to AADC, the Kodiak Island Borough or any other entity. Leave these lands alone as state public lands.

Respectfully
Eric Stirrup
P.O. Box 4123
Kodiak, AK

Christine Marasigan

From: Philip Tschersich [tscheezy@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 10:03 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: State land transfer on Kodiak to the U of A

Dear Representative LeDoux (aka Hi Gabrielle),

I am writing to express my deep concern over land access issues developing at Narrow Cape around the Kodiak Launch Complex. The Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation (AADC) began their sales pitch to the Kodiak community by stating that they would only require a very small footprint and could never imagine needing more land. AADC stated they would not impede access to traditional recreation or fishing areas, would not depend solely on military contracts, and would provide a windfall to the local economy. Now, citing the attacks of 9-11 and using this as a catchall excuse for leveraging access restrictions, they want expanded jurisdiction over the lands at the end of the road.

AADC stated in private communications to the Governor's office and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that they found the public comment process obstructionist and tiresome, so desired to circumvent it through executive order. It seems to have slipped AADC's minds that they were talking about public lands to begin with. AADC's attempts at these backroom dealings have rightly raised the ire of those Kodiak residents who value access to this prime recreation and fishing area.

The state is now considering offering 4,000 acres at Narrow Cape to the University of Alaska. U of A is a land grant college and it is understood that they are to receive revenue for their operations through the sale and development of lands given to it by the state. I think it is safe to assume AADC would be interested in receiving title to those lands at Narrow Cape. As if this were not transparent enough, the state has named the parcel in question the "Kodiak Rocket Range" and has designated a boundary to include the current complex and further envelope all of Narrow Cape (the map can be viewed at the state website: http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/uallands/map_sc_kodiak_rocket.pdf). Once in private control they would be able to do more or less what they please with it. I imagine lip service would be paid to protecting public access as a prerequisite for any sale, but AADC's ability to rationalize restricting access is becoming abundantly clear.

It does look suspicious when the plan to transfer the lands to U of A, and the possible subsequent sale to AADC, comes on the heels of growing local Kodiak opposition to AADC's activities. This opposition is being voiced through the very public process that AADC finds so cumbersome and has sought to subvert. Furthermore, it is unseemly when the president of the University is on AADC's board of directors.

I am strongly opposed to the transfer of the Lands at the end of the road to the University for the reasons stated above. If the transfer to the University does proceed, I would encourage the Kodiak Island Borough to purchase these lands for the good of the community. Very little of the land along the Kodiak road system is actually public, and it would be disturbing to lose even more.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Philip Tschersich

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Christine Marasigan

From: Karlan Bachmann [starry_karry@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2005 5:21 AM
To: Rep. Mary Kapsner; Sen. Gary Stevens; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: please do not close this land!!!!

to those it does concern :

i am an alaskan citizen who has been living in chile since february of last year. i plan on coming home this summer. news that i receive from alaska is alarming. more and more land is being blocked off to citizens, and not for "protection," but rather for military use, thus strengthening the industrial/military/governmental complex. this is dangerous, and is slowly killing the life on this planet. it is slowly killing our land which we need to respect, in order to survive. as the animals with the most privileges on this planet, we also have the most responsibility. please do not close this land. we need to begin to think differently. we need to begin to live bravely.

sincerely, and with much respect and love,

karlan bachmann

student

starry_karry@hotmail.com

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Christine Marasigan

From: Brent & Tash Pristas [pristas@alaska.net]
Sent: Monday, February 07 2005 4:11 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Cc: Sen. Gary Stevens
Subject: Kodiak Rocket Launch

Representative Ledoux and Senator Stevens:

Please note that I am opposed to HB 130 (and Senate Bill 96, which is apparently similar to HB 130) which proposes to swap land at Narrow Cape from DNR's control to the University of Alaska.

This is an attempt to avoid public process, public scrutiny, and public outrage aimed at the Kodiak Rocket Launch Facility. Kodiak residents have been participating in public comment periods and deserve the right to be involved in how this land at Narrow Cape is ultimately designated.

It is absolutely underhanded of the Governor to turn around and avoid the entire public process by setting up a land deal where the Rocket Launch can BUY the land that Kodiak residents are fighting hard to preserve for public use. This deal will ensure that a select few have their own personal playground on some of our most accessible land.

This land is used by people for a variety of reasons--easy access (no plane or boat required), hunting, fishing, beach combing.....all of these reasons are legitimate and are why we live where we do.

Representative Ledoux, Senator Stevens--please go to bat for us, and oppose this land deal. If you need written comment, tell us when and where to write. If you need verbal comment, tell us when and where.

Please also suggest to the Kodiak Daily Mirror to run your phone number, email address, and times and places for folks to make public comment regarding the Rocket Launch Facility. Those without internet access or English language proficiency will have a hard time digging up the necessary information to participate in public process.

Thanks,

Natasha Zahn Pristas

Christine Marasigan

From: Andi Olsen [andio@keacconnect.net]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2005 1:52 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Rocket Launch Land Transfer

Dear Gabrielle, I just want to put my two cents in regarding the Narrow Cape Land transfer. I have been attending the hearings and meetings regarding the Launch Complex from the very beginning and must say that this is the lowest blow we have recieved from AADC. I have not been in one camp or the other regarding the development of the Narrow Cape facility, we have friends that have been employeed out at the Site and I can say that there have been positive impact on some sectors of our community. That is not to say that I trust Ladner and company, I think that he has since the beginning understood that this was to be a military operation but knew that the community would not support that and therefore went with the "private company" perspective. I am completely against giving public recrea tional land away for state gains.

Narrow Cape has been one of my personal favorite spots to hike and beachcomb for years and I don't want to give up access to this area for the profit of a few. I understand that this matter will be under the consideration of the House Resources Committee in the near future. Please remember how many of us use this area and how important and devisive this issue has been to our island people over the years, don't forget us when you make decisions regarding this matter. Sincerely Andi Olsen

Christine Marasigan

F. om: Charlie and Suzanne King [mardelsud@gci.net]

Sent: Monday, February 07, 2005 4:09 AM

To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux

Dear Representative LeDoux:

I have just read an article in the Anchorage newspaper saying that Gov. Murkowski wants to give the University of Alaska 2,880 acres of land at the Kodiak Launch Complex.

I am all for giving land to the University of Alaska but do not believe that any land in, at or near the KLC should be given away under any circumstances.

I feel this move by Gov. Murkowski is a back door maneuver to get around all the opposition in Kodiak to giving the KLC control over a larger area of land.

I am asking that you work to remove this parcel from the list that is being submitted for approval.

Sincerely,

Charlie King
P.O. Box 1573
Kodiak, Ask. 99615
(907) 486-6251

February 6, 2005

Leonard and Carolyn Heitman
P.O. Box 2303
Kodiak, Alaska 99515
cheitman@ptialaska.net

Dear Representatives Mary Kapsner, Ralph Samuels, Jay Ramras, Kurt Olson, Paul Seaton, Carl Gatto and James Elkins,

Regarding Governor Murkowski's request to the Legislature to approve the transfer of state land to the University of Alaska, we are requesting your involvement in removing from the list the 2,880 acres of *prime, public* land at Narrow Cape, Kodiak Island which is presently used by the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation (AADC). The land in question, including Fossil Beach is a highly used recreational area for island residents and if the land transfer is granted to the U of A, the university will most probably turn the land over to the AADC and the land and road to Fossil Beach will be permanently closed year around to residents and tourists alike. The AADC wants to permanently exclude the public from this land.

Kodiak residents have very limited access to recreational areas along the 50 miles of road system. The majority of the road has rocky cliffs and ocean on one side and hillsides on the other. The majority of beaches are not accessible for the same reason. Also, 75% - 80% of the land on Kodiak Island is Federal owned. Kodiak residents are asking that the small percentage of prime, state public land and beaches on Kodiak Island remain available for public use, as this right is granted under the Alaska State Constitution.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources is currently considering the AADC's request for land jurisdiction over an additional 14,000 (fourteen thousand) acres of public land, which many Kodiak residents object to. If this happens, the AADC will then have jurisdiction over a total of 18,000 acres of prime, public use land. The AADC already has the authority to close off the public road at Narrow Cape for a limited amount of time before rocket/missile launches, and therefore there is no need for a permanent ownership request for public lands. Therefore, we are requesting that the Representatives on the House Resources Committee withdraw from consideration the Governor's request that the 2,880 acres of Narrow Cape land on Kodiak Island be transferred to the University of Alaska. Fossil Beach at Narrow Cape is one of the largest prime beaches on Kodiak Island and highly used by local residents and tourists in the summer, and the public does not want to see ownership transferred to the AADC by the University in the future. A copy of this letter is being sent to the House Resources Committee members listed below.

Sincerely,

Leonard and Carolyn Heitman

Christine Marasigan

From: Terry Dickey [tpdsalut@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2005 10:37 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Narrow Cape, Kodiak

Sunday, February 06, 2005

Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux,

I am strongly opposed to the state transferring approximately 3,000 acres of land at Narrow Cape on Kodiak Island to the University of Alaska. This land must remain in the public sector so that access can be maintained to the recreational areas.

Please remove the Narrow Cape parcel of land from the bill that is scheduled for a hearing by the House Resources Committee this week.

Sincerely

Terry Dickey

=====
Terry P. Dickey
POB 82148
Fairbanks, AK 99708
tpdsalut@yahoo.com
H:907.479-0131
W:907.474-6950

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Christine Marasigan

From: Ruth Gunderson [kodiak-rg@alaska.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2005 5:11 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: Land at Narrow Cape

Greetings from Kodiak -

I urge you to vote against selling this land at Narrow Cape. You are aware that this is a recreational area and events that Kodiak has is held at that area. Many enjoy the annual Whale watch, many do hike and picnic there and we do enjoy taking our visitors there for we have little else to show them. I come from the State of Wa. and I certainly never saw shells imbedded in the rock before. I cannot walk that lovely beach any longer, but I know of many who do. Please let this belong to the Borough and let it be ours alone for our activities.

I hope our State Representative van help us in every way possible.

Thank you.

Ruth Gunderson

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Christine Marasigan

From: Ruth Gunderson [kodiak-rg@alaska.com]

Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2005 5:11 PM

To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux

Subject: Land at Narrow Cape

Greetings from Kodiak -

I urge you to vote against selling this land at Narrow Cape. You are aware that this is a recreational area and events that Kodiak has is held at that area. Many enjoy the annual Whale watch, many do hike and picnic there and we do enjoy taking our visitors there for we have little else to show them. I come from the State of Wa. and I certainly never saw shells imbedded in the rock before. I cannot walk that lovely beach any longer, but I know of many who do. Please let this belong to the Borough and let it be ours alone for our activities.

I hope our State Representative can help us in every way possible.

Thank you.

Ruth Gunderson

Christine Marasigan

From: Janet Ladner [jladner@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2005 5:03 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: stop AADC and CEO Hayward P. Ladner

To your honorable gabrielle LeDoux:

Please stop the expansion at Narrow Cape and don't ruin the last state that is basically pristine.

Thank you,

Janet McDonald-Ladner

2/9/2005



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172
(907) 586-2120
(907) 463-2545 Fax
E-Mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org
www.ufa-fish.org

March 1, 2005

Representative Jay Ramras, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (Mail Stop 3100)
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Ramras,

The United Fishermen of Alaska Board of Directors recently met and considered House Bill 130 regarding land grant transfers for the University of Alaska. Fishermen and community representatives from Kodiak have expressed concerns with the inclusion of the Kodiak Rocket Range (MA.KR.1001) in the proposed legislation.

Fishermen and Kodiak residents are concerned that longtime recreational and subsistence uses of the rocket range area will be jeopardized by transfer of the parcel to the University of Alaska.

UFA supports Kodiak fishermen and community in requesting that the Kodiak Rocket Range parcel be excluded from the University Land Grant parcel list in HB 130.

Respectfully,

Mark D. Vinsel

Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Druggers Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association
Bristol Bay Reserve • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cordova District Fishermen United • Douglas Island Pink and Chum
Fishing Vessel Owners Association • Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
North Pacific Fisheries Association • North Pacific Scallop Cooperative • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
Old Harbor Fishermen's Association • Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation
Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Herring Seiners Marketing Association
Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners Association • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Catcher Boats • United Salmon Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association
Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen

Hoonah Indian Association
P.O. Box 602
Hoonah, AK 99829
Phone (907) 945-3545 Fax (907) 945-3703

March 4, 2005

Rep. Jay Ramras
Co-chair: House Resource Committee
State of Alaska

Re: University Lands bill; HB 130

Dear Representative Ramras,

Please include these statements into the record of testimony regarding state University Lands bill, HB 130.

The Hoonah Indian Association is a federally recognized tribe in accordance with and by the authority of the Acts of Congress of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250).

It is the purpose of this letter to register our opposition to the acquisition of State and Federal lands by the University that come at the cost of Alaska's communities or environment. We are opposed to the efforts of the State and its delegation in Washington D.C. to seek federal taxpayers' land to make up the shortfall, in funding, that results from the State's refusal to fully fund its university system.

We want to assure you that we support the University of Alaska as a land-grant institution, and appreciate the opportunity the University has to responsibly use the lands that have been given to the University's Land-Grant Endowment Trust Fund and helps to pay for the Alaska Scholars Program in addition to various natural resource education and research projects.

Unfortunately, we are aware that in the pursuit of profits some of the University's lands have become the object of wholesale clear-cut logging, oil-leasing, mining and development that we believe has not been in the long-term best interest of the University or the State of Alaska. We are also aware that poor management of some University-authorized operations has resulted in damage to sensitive habitat resulting in numerous citations, as in the case of operations on Cape Yakataga.

Additionally, we are concerned with how the recent Mountain Point land sale by the University in the Ketchikan area, to the ALCAN Forest Products Co., has outraged residents who feel betrayed by the failure of the University and the company to include their participation in project planning. It is unacceptable that they now watch in dismay as their local watershed is clear-cut logged and the values of their community threatened.

We are particularly concerned to see that the bills introduced in the Alaska State Legislature contain language that would repeal requirements for the University to engage tribal councils, communities, businesses, and local residents in development plans for any of the University's land holdings.

As an organization that represents descendants of Alaska's original land caretakers, the Hoonah Indian Association stands opposed to State of Alaska proposals that are little more than attempts to acquire federal public land and assets at federal taxpayer expense.

In areas traditionally occupied and used by various groups of Native people, some with yet unresolved issues of land ownership, the proposed legislation would allow the University of Alaska access to federal and state lands of cultural, environmental and economic significance including wildlands in the Tongass National Forest. We notice that several parcels listed on the U of A Land Grant List of 2005 Parcel Descriptions for Northern S.E. Alaska identify properties significant to the Tlingit people of this region that are currently managed by the State of Alaska. In addition, some lands to be selected from the Tongass National Forest are undoubtedly areas with cultural and economic value related to their customary and traditional use. Some include the sites of former village locations and the graves and cemeteries of ancestors, from whom the land was previously procured.

The Hoonah Indian Association is strongly opposed to the passage of any legislation that grants state or federal public land to the University of Alaska. We specifically request that language repealing public process be added back in the University's land management requirements. We seriously encourage the University to secure more reliable sources of revenue from more responsible and ecologically sound alternatives.

The Hoonah Indian Association appreciates the opportunity to go on record with these comments.

Sincerely,

Frank Wright Jr.
President

Brandon Maitlen

From: Dave Belton [naturalresources@naitribe.org]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 11:23 AM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Cc: Rep. Ralph Samuels
Subject: HB 130: University Lands
Attachments: U of A Lands.doc

Dear Rep. Ramras,

Please include these comments into the Record of Testimony regarding University Lands bill; HB130.

Thank you,

David M. Belton
Director of Cultural and Natural Resources
Hoonah Indian Association
P.O. Box 602
Hoonah, Alaska 99829
(907) 945-3545

Brandon Maitlen

From: Greg Streveler [grigori@gustavus.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 3:51 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: University Lands

Dear Representative Ramras:

I am so grateful and relieved that the House Resources Committee decided to remove some parcels, and particularly the Baranof Warm Springs parcel, from the University Lands bill. Thank you!

Yours truly,
Judy Brakel, Box 94, Gustavus, AK 99826

Brandon Maitlen

From: Doris Bailey [dorie@gci.net]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 5:06 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: HB 130

Representative Ramras, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me extra time during my testimony today. I apologize for my emotion but this has been a very personal and important issue for me and for many of my constituents. I am sorry I didn't quite have time to get all the issues addressed as I wanted but you did receive my comments in writing which was important to me. Please take note of my comments about Middle Island and Lisianski Point when you take the final vote on the floor. Thank you again for your kindness in extending the time for me.

Doris Bailey
dorie@gci.net

There are three truths: my truth, your truth, and the truth. -Chinese proverb

Brandon Maitlen

From: Doris Bailey [dorie@gci.net]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 5:18 PM
To: Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Paul Seaton
Cc: Rep. Peggy Wilson; Sen. Bert Stedman
Subject: HB 130

Thank you so much for allowing me to testify for the City and Borough of Sitka today and also for allowing me some extra time for that testimony. This is an issue which has been very emotional and personal for me and also for many of my constituents. I appreciate the work you have done on this bill and appreciate more than I indicated the difficulties of the issues. Thank you for reading the hard copy of my comments which were faxed to you and once again thank you for the opportunity of testifying.

Doris Bailey
dorie@gci.net

There are three truths: my truth, your truth, and the truth. -Chinese proverb

sure would like to see the Pelican area to be excluded in the same way. 99% of the people in Lisianski Inlet are totally against the allotment of land going to the U of A. Please do your best for us local yokals without much say in the big city.

Thanks Again,

Claude K. Odell
29 year resident of Pelican

Brandon Maitlen

From: Doris Bailey [dorie@gci.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 05, 2005 8:18 AM
To: Rep. Harry Crawford; Rep. Jim Elkins; Rep. Carl Gatto; Rep. Mary Kapsner; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Jay Ramras; Rep. Ralph Samuels; Rep. Paul Seaton; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Albert Kookesh
Cc: John C. Breseman; John C. Breseman
Subject: Fw: HB130

To whom it may concern,

Hi,

I tried to send a letter concerning this matter a few other day and lost service, so will try again. It is quite obvious that this bill future effects have not been thoroughly thought through and the public was not included at an early enough stage to comment before some people are trying to railroad it through.

I have lived in Pelican all of my life since 1954 and can see where this bill can and will create serious consequences in this area if passed, mostly negative.

It will definitely contradict with rural residences subsistence, recreational, etc...rights.

I strongly believe there should be no further land distributions by federal or state government whatsoever until the previous ones are settled and finalized.

"It's been 45 years since statehood and 33 years since passage of ANCSA and repeal of the (Alaska Native Land) Allotment Act. Yet under current law and procedures we were at least 20 years from seeing these conveyance completed, and by some estimates maybe 85 years or longer away from Alaskans gaining the land that is rightfully theirs," said Murkowski.

"This land transfer is incredibly important for Alaska Natives politically, economically and culturally. We were promised these lands a long time ago and these 45,000 acres are a step to reclaiming what is rightfully ours," said Chris McNeil, Jr., Sealaska President and CEO.

The Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act also authorizes the federal government to allocate a total of AT LEAST 200,000 ACRES.

I personally have submitted a 190 acre native allotment claim in the Lisianski Inlet area near Pelican, Alaska.

The above quotes are from the Sealaska Shareholder newsletter dated February 2005.

BIA I believe still has billions of dollars missing that should be another matter settled before land distributions so native who deserve that monies could also have the option of buying these lands.

I hereby request a copy of a map of these selected areas be sent to me if anyone has access to one. Thank you.

I do not have a lot of peoples address's but request people forward this to anyone the believe might be concerned. I don't have Alber Kookesh's address and all the letters I have read about HB130 I am amazed I haven't seen his name?

Sincerely, John C. Breseman
 Box 52 Salmon Way
 Pelican, Alaska 99832

jbpelicanak@hotmail.com
clifford@ptialaska.net
 907-735-2277

SENT TO CITY MANAGER
CITY COUNCIL

Stacy Kittams

From: Ron and Nen Schonenbach [ronnan@gcl.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2005 4:40 PM
To: clerk@gustavus-ak.gov; mayor@gustavus-ak.gov; jcozzi@haines.ak.us; jmedina@hoonah.net;
 city_clerk@ci.juneau.ak.us; mgr@borough.ketchikan.ak.us; clerk@ci.petersburg.ak.us;
 saxcity@ptalaska.net; saxman_city_clerk@yahoo.com; colleen@cityofsitka.com;
 darykddd@aol.com.gcl.net; cityclerk@aptalaska.net; cbyman@starband.net; yakclerk@starband.net;
 mayor@city.ketchikan.ak.us; m.harris@skagway.org; cityoftb@aptalaska.net
Subject: SB 96/HB 130 University Land Bill

Hello,

Based on the testimony which this bill has received there are certainly some land ownership issues for SE communities to consider. The last 25 years I worked for DNR and the last five years I served as the SE Regional Land Manager for the Div. of Mining, Land and Water so I am very familiar with land boundaries and DNR Area Plans. I am pleased to have worked with many individuals from all the communities over the years.

The legislation which the governor introduced has high impacts on SE and I clearly do not believe the communities are served by this bill. I have attached the letter I recently sent to Rep. Jay Ramras which states my viewpoints. The governor, DNR and the U of A are working on a revision based on testimony. The bill will be back for testimony on March 2. If your community is involved then please contact the gov. office or your representative. The maps are available for viewing on the DNR website. Proposed land is within or near the communities of Haines, Juneau, Pelican, Tenakee, Sitka, Petersburg, Wrangell, Coffman, Thome Bay, and Ketchikan.

Any support you can give to change the bill and reduce land in SE, particularly land classified Settlement, Public Recreation or Wildlife Habitat would be appreciate. Please email or call (789-2028) if you have any questions.

Thanks, Ron Schonenbach

copy

February 19, 2005

Representative Jay Ramras
State Capitol, Room 104
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: SB 96/HB 130 University Land Bill

Dear Representative Ramras,

After reviewing the maps contained in the University of Alaska Land Grant List of 2005 I'm not surprised to see why there is so much controversy from individuals and communities. Last year I retired from DNR after working as a land manager for 25 years within the SE Regional Office. Having been involved with the selection of these lands from the Tongass National Forest I have an intimate knowledge of DNR's land base in Southeast. I wish to point out some issues for your consideration.

DNR and the University have worked very closely to come up with a statewide list of parcels at the Governor's request. SB 7 from 2000 is clearly flawed and SB96/HB 130 is an attempt to fix the legislation by generating a specific list of parcels. This approach is reasonable but the parcel list must be altered to serve the public's need.

The current list contains 44 southeast properties (40,114 acres) scattered from Ketchikan to Juneau that from a geographic standpoint will be costly to manage. The list encompasses land for settlement, general use and public recreation as identified in DNR's Area Plans.

Observations

- The assumption that land will generate substantial money to fund University programs is flawed. DNR has already sold the most desirable land in southeast and the land pool has also been further reduced by land conveyances to the municipalities, the first settlement agreement to the University and to the Mental Health Trust Land Office. An endowment fund or appropriation is a more sensible way to achieve financial stability along with legislation that conveys a smaller land base.
- DNR's Area Plans undergo intense public scrutiny during a two-year development process. The commissioner's approval of these plans provides classification and management intent for state land. DNR should focus on selling Settlement land for their land disposal programs that have received additional legislative funding in recent years. Additionally, Public Recreation lands should not be part of the land package as these lands have unique public values. Once conveyed to the University the Public Recreation classification becomes meaningless and the public who was assured by DNR that the land would be used for public recreation purposes is betrayed and public trust and confidence in DNR is eroded. One example is the 1,358 acres at Lynn Canal, more commonly called Lynn Sisters. This parcel is classified as

Baranof Warm Springs is one of these. Its land use classification is "RU" - recreation undeveloped - 2002 S.E. Area Plan

Public Recreation and is identified as a future State Marine Park. This land would complement St. James Bay State Marine Park a few miles to the north that is heavily used and has a great public use cabin. There are also several parcels that have a Wildlife Habitat classification along with either Settlement or General Use. DNR should continue to hold all Wildlife Habitat lands.

By regulation DNR can only sell land classified as Settlement whereas the classifications have no relevance upon conveyance to the University. Less than 5% of the land is classified Settlement and even a smaller percentage is truly developable after accounting for steep terrain, muskeg and anadromous streams. While DNR has not included any Settlement lands proposed for sale within the next five years, they can ill afford the loss of any Settlement land if the legislature desires DNR to continue with a long-term land disposal program.

- **Removal of Selected Land** Harris River Junction (320 acres) should not be under consideration as the Commissioner's approval of the Prince of Wales Island Area Plan concurred with the relinquishment of this selection. This selection as well as several others are only selected and have not been conveyed from the federal government.
- **Maps in the Land Grant List** In some cases the parcel encompasses all of the state land in a specific area. In over 50% of the cases, the parcel represents only that land in the pool and gives no recognition to adjacent private or remaining state land. The legislature and the public cannot evaluate or visualize these fragmented ownership patterns without seeing adjacent private and state lands. A look at these maps leads one to believe that all surrounding land is Tongass National Forest, that is not the case. A good example is Thorne Bay containing four separate tracts of 2,557 acres. This map does not aid in understanding fractured ownership boundaries that will occur. The problem is compounded by the fact that DNR will issue a quitclaim deed for the land; this action does not require a land survey on the ground.
- **Acreage** The 250-260,000 acre figure has been tossed around for years. While the University obviously wants the maximum acreage possible there is no reason that the Governor cannot reduce this acreage and remove from the pool the controversial parcels or select additional parcels if parcels must be dropped and the 260,000 acre figure maintained. Due to controversy surrounding this legislation there is no compelling reason to fast track this bill.

Recommendations

- Remove from the pool all land classified Settlement, Public Recreation and Wildlife Habitat. Settlement lands are essential for DNR to continue with their land disposal program. Public Recreation and Wildlife Habitat lands are identified for specific, unique values and must continue to be managed by DNR. Elimination of these lands will aid the University by having fewer scattered parcels to manage.

*Baranof
Warm Springs*

- Remove from the pool land approved for relinquishment and land selected but not yet conveyed.
- Request that DNR produce a corrected set of maps showing state and private land surrounding the selected parcels.

I would appreciate your efforts to consider these revisions and to share my letter with other committee members. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any of the issues.

Sincerely,

Ron Schonenbach

16435A Pt. Lena Loop Road, Juneau 99801

789-2028

cc: Governor Murkowski
Commissioner Tom Irwin



**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

201 KATLIAN STREET, SUITE 200A

SITKA, AK 99835

Phone: 747-6276 Fax: 747-5807

Email: sitka_lio@legis.state.ak.us

DATE: Mar 4, 2005

TO: House Resources Committee

FAX: 5 pages, including cover sheet

FROM: Sitka Constituents

MESSAGE: To be included for Public Testimony on HB 130



**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

201 Katlian Street, Suite 200A, Sitka, AK 99835

Phone: 747-6276 Fax: 747-5807

Email: sitka_lio@legis.state.ak.us

DATE: Mar 4, 2005
TO: House Resources Comm
FAX: 465-2070 3 pages including cover sheet

FROM: Sitka Constituent

MESSAGE: Please include for public testimony for HB 130.

Signe Wilson
P. O. Box 597
Sitka, Alaska 99835

March 4, 2005

House Resources Committee
Alaska State House of Representatives

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 130 University Land bill. There must be other ways of funding the University of Alaska other than land sales. Legislative action should be introduced to change this from a land grant to a state funded university.

As a forty-five year resident of Sitka, I've seen the negative impact of the Alaska Mental Health Lands selections. There was no public awareness during the selection of these lands yet the bid process through which the sales are held virtually prohibits the average local citizen from ever acquiring any of these lands. The end result is the State receives the inflated income, the local residents suffer higher property assessments and taxes and loss of public use areas.

In reviewing the Southeast selections, each community would suffer a tremendous loss of use by placing these lands in private ownership. Although I live in Sitka, we travel to many of these communities and personally use the areas selected. Mite Cove on Yakobi Island is a small but important anchorage for cruisers and fishermen. A true last haven for folks heading to the fishing grounds. It would also be the only anchorage for the owners of the selected lands virtually eliminating or, in the least, severely restricting it for public use. The other properties near Pelican should be transferred to the city of Pelican so they can determine the use.

The Tenakee selection near the harbor is the only public beach area readily accessible by locals and visitors. Trail access to the public recreation area, the river and private lands is through the selected area. This is also one of the main berry picking areas for locals.

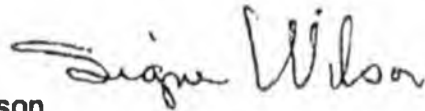
One of the most magical places to explore in Warm Springs Bay is the salt water lagoon. This should always remain public. Other lands in the area should be left as they are until the Southeast Transportation Plan is settled.

In our local Sitka area, residents have always shown a preference to leaving the lands for public use. With one of the largest harbor systems in the state, residents use these lands year round for recreation, subsistence and its scenic values.

The Lisianski Peninsula selection surrounds a Native allotment. Commercial development of the proposed selection would, in all probability, significantly increase the monetary value of the Native land. Money, money, money is what it is all about, right? Not in this case, the owners of the allotment operate a fish camp where they teach the traditional Native subsistence and cultural activities to Sitka youth and young adults as a way of bringing order to their, sometimes troubled, lives. This unique approach has succeeded where other more conventional means has failed. This same projected commercial development surrounding their camp would destroy the isolated Native camp environment essential to the success of their program. It is unthinkable that anyone would knowingly do anything that would bring harm to this grass roots effort to help our young people.

Local citizens in all areas should have the opportunity to help determine land uses that affect them and not be bulldozed by the very folks that were voted in to represent their interests.

Sincerely,



Signe Wilson

Brandon Maitlen

From: Cliff Lobaugh [cdlobaugh@gci.net]

Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 7:32 AM

To: Rep. Jay Ramras

Subject: University land grab

I oppose the University of Alaska land grab as it deals with Southeast Alaska and the lack of hearings before the lands were considered. This seems like a rushed deal to the public and poorly put together.

Cliff Lobaugh
3340 Fritz Cove Rd.
Juneau, Ak 99801

Brandon Maitlen

From: Jeanne' [31lesh36@silveridge.com]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 6:51 AM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: HB 130

FUNDING THE UNIVERSITY—HB 130

We must all question why this land grant proposal became the mechanism as a funding source for the University of Alaska. The manner in which this issue has been driven, without public hearings, suggests another agenda is being served. We have \$30 billion in our Permanent Fund; why wasn't this resource considered as one writer suggested? This is a statewide issue, the solution should be shared by everyone and every generation.

It is the people's responsibility to mandate appropriate action through our elected representatives, we hope our voices are heard. In my judgment, the best solution means a contribution from our PFDs. This income is a great windfall, we did not earn it. What better way to demonstrate our direct support for a worthy program? If we do not accept this reasoning, why should we direct a land grant solution to targeted regions to solve this problem?

According to Joe Beedle's testimony, if these lots were sold, the university would realize about \$5 million annually. Our permanent fund dividends could be reduced by 1% and match that amount.

There may be regions that would opt for a land grant. So be it; some of us want out of this option. We want the right to determine paths to a vision of our area's development.

Bob Leshner
PO Box 3
Pelican, Alaska 99832
907 735 2276

Brandon Maitlen

From: Sally McGuire [chilkootmcguire@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2005 6:09 AM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: University Lands Bill

Dear Members of House Resources Committee, I understand that today you are again taking up HB 130. This is a very thinly disguised piece of legislation designed to remove public oversight from the process of transferring our public lands to private developers. I understand that you are no doubt being strongly lobbied by our Governor and by University personnel to pass this legislation pretty much as is. However, your responsibility is to us, the citizens of Alaska, not to give our lands away without our permission, and not to undermine the public process. This bill if passed will become as potent an issue as the coalbed methane issue was last year, which even resulted in one legislator having to resign. The individual parcels are most of them very controversial, and the overall intent to "streamline" the University's funding stream is an attempt to remove our basic right to determine the fate of our own lands. This bill must be rejected. Thank you, Sally McGuire

3/4/2005

Brandon Maitlen

From: Alaska Passages [info@alaskapassages.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2005 7:08 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Cc: Rep. Ralph Samuels
Subject: House Bill 130, when will it go away??

Dear Representative Ramras;

Yesterday in the hearing for House Bill 130 you reiterated your concern that part of your mission was to get public lands into private hands. I understand that this is important to you. I understand how little private land is available in Alaska.

House Bill 130 is not a homesite bill however. It is about realizing a profit for lands that at this time are being held in trust by the State for all Alaskans, and giving that money to the University.

Joe Beedle has told me that even if most of the land is sold after about 20 years, the profit would only represent about 1% of the annual budget for the University. It seems like that small profit does not offset all the concerns that have been expressed about the disposal of these lands, particularly in Southeast Alaska.

In particular, I am concerned about the remote sites that are designated in the Southeast Area Plan as "Ru" or meant for undeveloped recreation. I spoke with Bob Loeffler today, and he indicated that the land use designations in the Area Plans represent several years worth of extensive research at some expense to the State. It seems arbitrary and irresponsible to overturn the land use designations to develop those lands. That is exactly what will happen if House Bill 130 goes through. The land then becomes private, and the public has no legal recourse over how that land is developed.

You said that there was "No Walmart going up" on the land in Kodiak, but there also would be nothing stopping that from happening. Once the University sells the land, it loses control over it too. The university is not going to want to hang on to the land and manage it. They need to realize a profit from the sales.

Some of the lands designated "Ru" include Warm Springs Bay, part of Port Alexander's Back Lagoon, Sanford Cove in Endicott Arm, Whitney Island near Cape Fanshaw, and Read Island near Farragut Bay. Most of those names may be unfamiliar to you. They are remote parcels used mostly by local residents and visitors who use these places for hunting, subsistence, and recreation. According to Bob Loeffler, these "Ru" lands represent about 2088 acres. Perhaps one way to mitigate the opposition to House Bill 130 would be to remove those lands from consideration.

I appreciate the time that House Resources is giving to House Bill 130. I hope that the Bill can be modified to address the considerable opposition that has been voiced.

Thank You,
Julie Hurshey
Petersburg, Alaska

Brandon Maitlen

From: Dave Lacey [dlacey@mosquitonet.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2005 5:08 PM
To: Rep. Jay Ramras
Subject: HB 130

Rep. Ramras,

Re: HB 130

This is bad legislation in that it takes public land out of the public process. The University does not need to be in the land management business as that is not its forte or focus. DNR is better prepared to manage land. There is no logical reason to give the University land to manage except to force it into some boomer type moves to generate fast cash that will not be best for things in the long run. The legislature needs to address the University funding out of the general funds of the state. Education is important and we do not need to be playing these kinds of games with it.

Thanks,

Dave Lacey
PO Box 81765
Fairbanks, AK 99708-1765