

HB111 Supporting Document – Letters in Support 3.12.17
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1.

From: Lynn Spence

Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 6:54 PM

To: House Resources <lhsres@akleg.gov>

Subject: SB21

I support the repeal of SB21. I believe in this oil climate it is not in the state's best interest to give tax credits and tax breaks to oil companies. Alaska has proven to be a reliable, safe, and profitable place for oil companies. I believe they can pay their fair share to the state without these financial incentives that other Alaskan businesses do not receive.

Lynn Spence

Homer, AK 99603

2.

From: Cynthia Morelli
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 9:06 AM
To: House Resources <lhsres@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 111

Dear Alaskan Representatives,

Please, it is certainly past time to undo the financial give aways to big oil by our state. I am in favor of ending the tax breaks and payments to companies making record profits. Let's prioritize education, the lifeblood of the future of this state.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Morelli
Homer, Alaska 99603

3.

From: Judy
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:15 PM
To: House Resources <lhsres@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 111

Alaska House Resources Committee Testimony House Bill 111

I have lived in Alaska since 1963 and speak as a resident, wife, mother, grandmother, and member of my community. I have lived here long enough to remember when we had no money but leaders who gave us a vision for the future. I have seen improvements in our infrastructure, educational systems, and cultural and community development resources. Much of this has been made possible by the development of our natural resources, the wealth that was granted as part of our statehood compact.

We are not the only ones who have benefitted from this wealth. Those who have developed these resources and built the pipeline and other infrastructure have also benefitted, some beyond their wildest dreams. They, like us, are subject to the whims of the marketplace. Because we have all benefitted, we must also sacrifice during tough times. All Alaska residents have already sacrificed through reductions in services, cuts in our schools and, last year, with half of our Permanent Fund Dividends. Now it is time for the industry that has made so much from our resources to contribute more in production taxes. Those who can least afford it have already paid through their PFDs.

Judy

Juneau, AK

Judy

4.

From: Voyage Thirty-four

Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 9:06 AM

To: Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes
<Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 111

This bill seems like a step in the right direction when it comes to taxing oil companies. I urge you both to support it and/or similar bills to increase oil production taxes.

Thank you,
Mike Sirofchuck

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___Sent from my turquoise Princess rotary phone___

5.

From: Eric Knudtson

Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 12:23 PM

To: House Resources <lhsres@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB111 and HB133:

Dear Sirs:

Please pass both HB bill 11 and HB133. Cut oil company subsidies and raise oil tax rates! If you fail to do so, Alaskans could end up paying taxes and/or giving up a portion of their permanent fund earnings to pay off what current law has us OWING to oil companies! I support balancing our budget with income taxes and permanent fund dividend cuts, but lets not use our money to pay off DEBTS to oil companies.

Thank you,
Eric Knudtson
Homer, AK 99603

6.

From: Breena Walters [
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 3:02 PM
To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>
Subject: In Support of HB111

Hello Representative Tarr,

I am a resident of Soldotna, Alaska and I wanted to write you in support of House Bill 111. I appreciate the tax restructuring and credit restructuring plan that you have laid out. I feel it is fair and gives oil and gas companies enough incentive to develop in Alaska, but not at the expense of the Alaskan people. I think that, in a market where oil and gas are no longer the “hot commodity” it is unwise for the state to continue to invest in the development of companies such as BP and Conoco Phillips. I appreciated your clause that gives credits to smaller companies that produce less than 15,000 barrels daily, it seemed an adequate compromise that encourages small business growth and yet does not allow larger, established companies to take advantage of Alaska’s credit system. I appreciate you putting a bill together that, seems to me to be, bi-partisan and that puts Alaskans first, not the oil companies. Thank you,

Breena Litzenberger

Blazy Construction, Inc.

7.

From: marna kranenburg [
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 3:45 PM
To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Guttenberg
<Rep.David.Guttenberg@akleg.gov>; Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB111

Thank you Rep. Tarr for taking the lead on this difficult issue.

I support HB111 and your efforts to reform our complicated and unfair subsidization of the oil industry.

I wish I could speak more eloquently on the bill, but most of it is over my head.

That said, ANY reform that curbs the amount of money we give to big oil as they realize huge yearly profits while we are cutting jobs is A-OK in my book.

Keep up the good work.

Marna Sanford

District 4B

8.

From: Ed Wesley
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 5:22 PM
To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 111

My name is Edward Wesley. I have been a resident of Alaska since 1973. I worked on the Alaska Pipeline for several years. I support responsible resource development. I support HB 111 because it offers an opportunity for the oil companies to participate with a fair share of tax credits during our state budget deficits.

Sent from my iPhone

9.

From: Fwak

Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 5:35 PM

To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>

Subject: House Bill 111

I support house bill 111

Sent from my iPhone

10.

From: Jill Wittenbrader

Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 5:51 PM

To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson
<Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>

Cc: Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes
<Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 111

Dear Co-chairs,

I support passage of HB 111. Please pass this bill to curb subsidies to the oil companies. Help reduce our deficit and get top dollar for our oil. If they don't want it now they will someday and we need to get top dollar for it, it's a limited resource.

Thanks

Jill Wittenbrader

Kodiak, Alaska

Sent from my iPad

11.

From: Don Fritz

Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 8:07 PM

To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Dean Westlake <Rep.Dean.Westlake@akleg.gov>

Cc: Sen. Peter Micciche <Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Chenault <Rep.Mike.Chenault@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB111 testimony

Dear Sirs

I am writing to testify in favor of HB111, and hope that additional measures will be sought to increase State revenue generated from our petroleum resources. I believe that both SB21 and ACES fail the State of Alaska at lower oil prices, and that SB21 fails the State's best interests at all oil prices. While I believe that HB111 is a start, it is my belief that we need to continue to address the injustice that SB21 brought to the State. While I cannot blame oil companies for representing their shareholders best interests, I do fault our former governor and legislators for failing to see through the representations of big oil and for failing to look out for the State's best interests.

I also suspect the intentions of those who attempt to depict that the slight increase of oil currently being generated from the slope is solely due to the passage of SB21 or that it demonstrates that SB21 is working. If the slight uptick in oil currently flowing through the Trans Alaska Pipeline System is to be credited to SB21, it is my belief that the significant decline in North Slope employment should also be attributed to the passage of SB21.

I do not believe that we should owe oil companies more in credits than we collect in oil production taxes. I am in favor of tax credits for logical exploration and for bringing new fields online, but I also believe that the money to support oil tax credits should come from oil production taxes paid on oil generated from our legacy fields. As such, I am in favor of greatly increasing the taxes on the legacy fields until such time as the majors leave.

It is my belief that we should not be concerned with trying to prevent "big oil" leaving Alaska. My belief is that if they choose to leave our State, other oil companies would be there to take their place. My belief is that this is how oilfields in decline normally progress, Cook Inlet is a prime example of what happens when "big oil" departs from a field in decline. My belief is that Hilcorp has done an excellent job of capturing oil and natural gas from fields that was not deemed worthy of further development or expenditure by "big oil". Hilcorp comes in and exploration jumps, as does production of oil and gas.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB111

Don Fritz

12.

From: Iniakuk Lake Wilderness Lodge [

Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 11:53 AM

To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>

Subject: Flawed Oil Tax System Shortchanges Alaska in Favor of Giveaways to Big Oil

Repost from Representative Les Gara

JUNEAU – This week, economists with the Alaska Department of Revenue produced a report analyzing how much Alaska generates in oil production taxes after the state pays out subsidies in the form of oil tax credits.

The report shows that in the next fiscal year, FY 2018, the state of Alaska is slated to pay out roughly \$20 million more in tax credits than it is estimated to receive in production tax payments.

This makes no business sense and is ruining Alaska. I am advocating NO oil tax subsidies, we cannot afford it.

Patricia Gaedeke, Owner

Iniakuk Lake Wilderness Lodge, LLC

13.

From: Rod Mccoy [
Sent: Saturday, March 04, 2017 1:06 PM
To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fwd: HB 111

Rod

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rod Mccoy <
Date: March 4, 2017 at 11:07:40 AM AKST
To: Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov, rep.rgaren.tarr@legis.state.org
Subject: HB 111

This state simply cannot continue regarding its oil industry to be in need of corporate welfare.

Please stop allowing this industry to own legislative outcomes. It was once said, "This is OUR house, This is the PEOPLE'S house!" These words should not be simple rhetoric, not in this time of a crashing economy. You say this economy is not crashing? Well just stay the current course dictated by a corporate vice grip on its legislature and our homes will be cheap, food for many will be scarce. Your choice!

Rod

14.

From: Moira Ingle [

Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 7:28 PM

To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>

Cc: Moira Ingle <

Subject: Public Testimony, HB 111

Please accept this email as public testimony regarding HB 111; I attempted to call in but the number of people waiting to testify prevented me from doing so.

My name is Moira Ingle and I live in Chugiak, House District 12. I have been an Alaska resident since 1991 and am a registered voter. I am representing myself only in this testimony.

I support HB 111 as a reasonable response to the currently unworkable oil and gas production tax structure as implemented under SB 121 in the Parnell administration. It appears to me that SB 121 gives an unfair quantity of credits to oil producers, particularly at low oil prices such as we are currently experiencing. HB 111 attempts to address this problem by increasing the minimum production tax level, scaling back the huge tax credit for net operating losses, and closing a loophole that allows oil companies to carry over tax credits.

Given Alaska's historic economic dependence on natural resources, particularly oil, it is critical that the State receives a fair tax on revenues gained by the oil companies. We are not now in a position to casually give away critical revenue; that's part of what has put us in the fiscal hole we're currently attempting to dig out of. We should not -- and need not -- sell the State short by giving the oil companies a great deal at our expense for what should be normal operating costs. I support the effort behind HB 111, but if anything, I think the minimum tax level should be raised even higher than the bill proposes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Moira Ingle