



March 2, 2018

Representative Geran Tarr, Co-Chair
Representative Andy Josephson, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
State Capitol, Room 124
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Letter of Opposition for House Bill 27 – High-Risk Chemicals for Child Exposure

Dear Representatives, Tarr & Josephson;

The Alaska Chamber would like to express its opposition to House Bill 27.

The Alaska Chamber is a non-profit founded in 1953 working to promote a positive business environment in Alaska. The Chamber is the voice of small and large business representing hundreds of employers and local chamber across Alaska. Our member companies employ over 100,000 hard-working Alaskans and support the development of environmental policies based on sound scientific basis over the precautionary method.

The Alaska Chamber supports the protection of public health and the environment through reasonable, carefully considered programs that are developed and implemented based on sound scientific arguments, and credible, reproducible studies and analysis. We believe it is important that consumers in Alaska and across the country can feel confident in the use of chemicals in commerce. Given the interdependence of commerce throughout the United States, it is important that businesses have regulatory certainty across all states for the sale of goods.

A precautionary approach, while well intentioned, needlessly threatens the availability of goods for Alaskans and the viability of Alaskan Businesses. Presuming that chemicals pose a risk to health and the environment, even without the presence of scientific evidence that such risks are in fact present or related to a specific activity or product and requires precautionary measures to be adopted or implemented to mitigate those assumed risks.

How will the list of chemicals be used by the State, and in conjunction with federal laws? An uncertain regulatory environment does not allow businesses to plan and thus artificially stymies growth. These concerns are all cause for the Alaska Chamber to oppose House Bill 27.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Thayer', written in a cursive style.

Curtis Thayer
President & CEO

Cc: Representative John Lincoln
Representative Harriet Drummond
Representative Justin Parish
Representative Chris Birch
Representative DeLena Johnson
Representative George Rauscher
Representative David Talerico