

May 4, 2024

Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

Re: House Bill 88, Warehouse Work Quotas

Dear Chair Bjorkman, and members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee,

The Alaska Chamber (the Chamber) writes in opposition to House Bill 88, an Act relating to work quotas for employees at warehouse distribution centers; and providing for an effective date.

The Alaska Chamber was founded in 1953 and is Alaska's largest statewide business advocacy organization. Our mission is to promote a healthy business environment in Alaska. The Chamber has more than 700 members and represents businesses of all sizes and industries from across the state, representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

Many jobs, across all industries, have some type of performance or production measurement to assist an employer in meeting the goals and obligations of the business to customers and business partners. There is nothing inherently nefarious about the use of such performance measures, in logistics or any other industry.

HB88's disclosure requirements are logistically infeasible for many warehouse operations. In the warehouse context, employees are generally paid on an hourly basis. Performance measures establish planning goals to meet the requirements of the work that needs to be performed. Some workers may have individualized metrics they try to achieve, some may have metrics assigned to their entire team or their shift, or some may have no metrics at all. The variety of metrics is considerable — making a one-size-fits-all notice requirement impractical and overly burdensome.

This bill seeks to punish burgeoning business ventures in Alaska before they even open their doors and sends the wrong message to attract new economic opportunities in Alaska. It also targets a single stakeholder, who deserves a chance to prove their commitment to a positive workforce environment.

In closing, the Chamber opposes HB88.We encourage the committee to not pass the bill.

Sincerely,

Kati Capozzi

President and CEO

