



March 27, 2025

Re: Senate Bill 61, Electronic Device Recycling

Co-Chairs Olson, Hoffman, Stedman, and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Kati Capozzi, and I proudly serve as the president and CEO of the Alaska Chamber of Commerce. I'm testifying today in opposition to Senate Bill 61.

The Alaska Chamber is the state'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.

Senate Bill 61 proposes the creation of a statewide electronics recycling program. While the Chamber membership supports responsible recycling efforts and environmental stewardship, SB 61 places an unachievable and costly burden on manufacturers which will ultimately negatively impact Alaska consumers and businesses. As written, this bill would establish one of the most burdensome and expensive electronics recycling programs in the nation—without adequate consideration of Alaska's unique logistical and infrastructure challenges.

Unlike other states that have implemented electronics recycling by leveraging existing municipal and nonprofit infrastructure, Alaska lacks the collection and processing capabilities to support the demands of SB 61. There are currently no certified electronics recyclers in the state, meaning collected devices would need to be shipped to the Lower 48, increasing costs and in some cases increasing environmental footprint. Even if Alaska did have a certified electronics recycler in the state, the inclusion of "all battery-containing electronics" expands the existing programs far beyond what current recycling systems are equipped to handle.

Without a detailed, statewide assessment of e-waste volumes, existing infrastructure, and community capacity, SB 61 asks manufacturers to build an entire system from scratch—at significant cost. These costs will inevitably be passed down to Alaskan consumers and businesses, effectively creating a new, hidden tax during a time of great economic uncertainty.

We urge lawmakers to pause on advancing SB 61 and instead work with stakeholders to develop a more reasonable, phased approach that considers Alaska's unique geography, population distribution, and current waste management capabilities. We welcome further dialogue and encourage collaboration among all stakeholders before moving forward with this a program of this magnitude.

For these reasons, we oppose SB 61 and urge lawmakers to reconsider its passage. Thank you for considering the Alaska Chamber's testimony today.



2550 Denali Street, Suite 530  
Anchorage, AK 99503



Office (907) 278-2722



[www.alaskachamber.com](http://www.alaskachamber.com)  
[info@alaskachamber.com](mailto:info@alaskachamber.com)