

AkPIRG calls on House to Kill Soft Money Bill

- Bill will SUPER-SIZE Political Party Contributions
- 11th Hour Tactic allows virtually no Public Input

AkPIRG called on the Alaska House to stop a last minute effort to open the floodgates to soft money in Alaska politics. HB 94 has been totally revamped to allow anonymous donations to political parties. These donations were stopped in Alaska in response to a ballot initiative in the mid-1990s.

“This is government at its worst. Eleventh hour tricks to bring a flood of anonymous, corporate cash to party coffers – that's not why our legislators are in Juneau,” stated AkPIRG's Steve Cleary. “Sen. Therriault totally revamped the bill without public input, claiming that the public could input in other committees and then he voted to bypass those committees. The public is being completely left out of this process.”

AkPIRG is backing an initiative that would bring back the Campaign Finance Reforms that the legislature erased two years ago. “AkPIRG helped collect over 36,000 signatures to let Alaskans decide to get big money out of Alaska politics, but Sen. Therriault's efforts will let SUPER-SIZED money into Alaska politics,” Cleary added.