

### **Why Is Senate Bill 27 Needed?**

- Currently, there are over 5,700 pesticide labels registered for use in the state of Alaska.
  - Presently there is no fee associated with registration.
  - Registration fees is a source of untapped state revenue.
  - Alaska is the ONLY state that does not collect fees on pesticides registered for commercial use.
- Large amounts of pesticides are used every year in urban and rural Alaska, including use in schools, parks, agricultural lands, grocery stores, hospitals, daycare facilities, public buildings, homes, gardens, and elsewhere.
- Pesticides are linked to a variety of health problems, including cancers, developmental disorders, reproductive failure, birth defects, allergies, and asthma.
- Despite these known risks, we have no accurate information on which pesticides are used, where, when, and in what amounts.
- In order to make fair and effective policy decisions to protect water quality, public health, and subsistence foods, Alaska needs reliable information on pesticide use.

### **What will SB 27 mandate?**

- This bill requires an \$80 fee be collected for registering pesticides for commercial use in Alaska. New York State, by comparison, charges \$300 per label.
- This bill will require those who use pesticides for commercial and contract purposes to report basic information regarding where, when, and quantity of use to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.
- The Department of Environmental Conservation is required to make the reporting process easy on those who report, and to make information available to the public, researchers, and public officials in a timely manner.
- This bill establishes a Pesticide Advisory Board that includes representation from pesticide users and applicators, public health officials, drinking water providers, researchers, and the general public to ensure the system is efficient, fair and useful.

### **How will the information be used?**

- Effective public policy relies on good science and good data. Pesticide use information will help public officials protect water quality, public health and subsistence foods.
- Because pesticides are toxic, often persistent in our environment, and are used widely in our communities, the public has a right to know about pesticides used around us.

### **Who supports tracking of pesticide use?**

There is broad-based support for pesticide use improved public notification and reporting, including support from the medical community, subsistence food users, parents, workers, and environmental advocates. Commercial fishing groups and others raised concern over pesticide contamination last spring when the DEC proposed regulatory changes endorsing aerial spraying.