

**From:** TPepiot@aol.com  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** No Vote On SB 3  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 5:09:46 AM

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Dear Senators,

I want to express concerns over SB 3. I have been mining since I was nine years old for about 30 years, I learned how to suction dredge responsibly with all the concerns of the environment. When I started there where permits that we had to obtain to run a suction dredge and it seemed that we went well above what was expected of us to protect the environment, since those times the permitting has come to a point that we are not allowed to suction dredge because of the amount of unnecessary regulations put upon us, once the permit was only a few pages is now around 15 plus pages. I have the opportunity to share my experiences with grade school and middle schools that children that attend outdoor schools in our area also I help a local mining association with Boy scout rendezvous, our association uses our suction dredges to collect the gold we use in our demos and with that the children get to take a vial with the gold they find home, I am very proud that I can be part of this and if this bill passes no more teaching, no more smiles on children's faces. I feel that with senate bill 838 and the moratorium nothing is going to stop the onslaught of efforts to shut down suction dredging we have proven with studies that suction dredges doesn't cause the harm. My family ask you all to vote no on SB 3 and ask you to come see what we do this summer. I feel that this bill is bad for the economic values that will be lost do the shut down of suction dredges. So I ask you to vote no on SB 3 as written and if there are amendments that allows the suction dredging to continue without more regulation then I could except that, just don't shut us down.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Thomas Pepiot  
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