

-----Original Message-----

From: Billie Bob Allen [<mailto:bballen@mtaonline.net>]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 11:00 AM

To: Sen. Joe Paskvan

Cc: Ray Ritari

Subject: SB 208 Disaster Planning and Services

Senator, due to a time conflict I will not be able to attend the Senate State Affairs Committee meeting on March 13th, however, I would like to offer a few comments to you, the sponsor, regarding the position of the Alaska State Fair on this issue.

The Alaska State Fair (ASF) supports your Bill. ASF management has been working with the Mat-Su Borough EMS (MSB) and the State Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division in regards to emergency planning in the event of a disaster. Signatory to an agreement to develop an initial plan to create shelter for the people of the Mat-Su Borough in the event of a disaster are MSB, State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, MSB School District, American Red Cross, City of Palmer and Mat-Su Regional Medical Center. The MOU purpose is to form a partnership to plan, prepare, and implement mass sheltering protocols for use on the Alaska State Fair grounds.

To that end Senator Paskvan, the ASF has pledged it's assets, where needed, to support the MSB in any fashion that they can. Primarily, in several meetings management of ASF has had with their partners, ASF has offered buildings and infrastructure to be considered for use in mass sheltering. ASF has approximately 130,000 sf under cover that could POTENTIALLY, be used for mass sheltering. Approximately 30,000 sf could be placed in service almost immediately for sheltering.

In summation Senator, the Alaska State Fair stands ready to support the local political subdivision in a statewide mutual aid system and pledge our assets as needed in the event of a disaster.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad