



GARY STRANNIGAN
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April 5, 2011

The Honorable Dennis Egan
Chair, Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
AK State Capitol, Room #510
Juneau, AK 99801

Members, Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

Re: Committee Substitute for SB 115 (Labor & Commerce) – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Egan:

On behalf of Liberty Mutual I would like to request your support of the committee substitute for SB 115 when it comes before the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee for consideration. Liberty Mutual is a partner of Asurion, which administers a program providing portable electronic device insurance coverage to individuals purchasing portable electronic devices and services.

We are in support of this bill because it modernizes existing law in the Insurance Code, which covers the licensure of limited lines insurance agents, by expanding the current law to appropriately regulate the offering of insurance covering “portable electronics.” The portable electronics concept authorizes a broad scope of coverage for consumer devices so that a law change is not necessary every time a new product is brought to the market.

The bill provides clarity and regulatory certainty to the regulated community regarding the licensure of wireless carriers for the sale of portable electronics insurance. We also support the consumer protections the bill offers, including training requirements for a vendor’s employees and authorized representatives selling this product, disclosure requirements at the point of sale, and others.

We have and are supporting this legislation in numerous other states and passing this bill will be consistent with the national trend for the regulation of portable electronic insurance coverage.

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Again, Liberty Mutual, Inc. would appreciate your favorable support of this legislation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Strannigan", written over a horizontal line.

Gary Strannigan
AVP, Public Affairs
Liberty Mutual Group

C: Bettye Davis, Labor & Commerce Committee, Alaska State Senate
Catherine A. Giessel, Labor & Commerce Committee, Alaska State Senate
Linda Menard, Labor & Commerce Committee, Alaska State Senate
Joe Paskvan, Vice Chair, Labor & Commerce Committee, Alaska State Senate