



State of Alaska
Department of Public Safety
Fire Standards Council

Sean Parnell, Governor
Joseph A. Masters, Commissioner

April 4, 2011

Alaska Fire Chief's Association
Chief Jeff Tucker- President
2358 Bradway Road
North Pole, AK 99705

Dear Chief Tucker,

On January 31, 2011 the Alaska Fire Chief's Association (AFCA) solicited support from the Alaska Fire Standards Council (AFSC) for a designated seat on the Council. The AFSC recently reconvened for consideration of this request and passed a motion to support the AFCA in establishing a designated seat. This support is specific to the proposal for the designation of an additional seat (under AS 18.70.330 [b] {1}) for a representative of the AFCA.

The mission of the AFSC is to provide fire service personnel within the state of Alaska realistic and attainable standards to safely and effectively serve Alaskan communities. As the AFSC continues to establish training and performance standards for Alaska's Fire Service, we have a vision that includes maintaining the highest level of professional standards and comprehensive certification program requirements. Overall, we strive to have the greatest positive impact toward the safety and welfare of fire service personnel and their communities

In review of your request we have concluded that the AFCA would augment our ability to fulfill our mission. This decision is based on the AFCA's continued efforts to enhance fire service leadership, its longstanding support of the AFSC, and its commitment for continued support of the mission of the AFSC. As such, the AFSC endorses the AFCA efforts for the addition of a seat on the Council that is designated for a representative of the AFCA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Descutner".

Gordon Descutner
AFSC Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Buddy Lane".

Buddy Lane
AFSC Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Coon".

Greg Coon
AFSC Vice Chairman

"Establishing performance standards for Alaska's fire service"
Alaska Fire Standards Council
5700 E. Tudor Rd. - Anchorage, AK 99507 - Voice (907) 269-5061 - Fax (907) 269-0134



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Sean Parnell, Governor
Joseph A. Masters, Commissioner

April 4, 2011

Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association
Thomas Wescott- President
PO Box 111222
Anchorage, AK 99511-1222

Dear Mr. Wescott,

On January 31, 2011 the Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association (AKPFFA) solicited support from the Alaska Fire Standards Council (AFSC) for a designated seat on the Council. The AFSC recently reconvened for consideration of this request and passed a motion to support the AKPFFA in establishing a designated seat. This support is specific to the proposal for designation of an existing seat (AS 18.70.330 [b] {3}) for a representative of the AKPFFA.

The mission of the AFSC is to provide fire service personnel within the state of Alaska realistic and attainable standards to safely and effectively serve Alaskan communities. As the AFSC continues to establish training and performance standards for Alaska's Fire Service, we have a vision that includes maintaining the highest level of professional standards and comprehensive certification program requirements. Overall, we strive to have the greatest positive impact toward the safety and welfare of fire service personnel and their communities

In review of your request we have concluded that the AKPFFA would augment our ability to fulfill our mission. This decision is based on the AKPFFA's history of active participation in statewide fire service issues and its commitment to support the mission of the AFSC. As such, the AFSC endorses the AKPFFA effort to seek seat designation within an existing seat on the Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Descutner".

Gordon Descutner
AFSC Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Buddy Lane".

Buddy Lane
AFSC Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Coon".

Greg Coon
AFSC Vice Chairman

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ALASKA PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 111222 Anchorage, Alaska 99511-1222

www.alaskapffa.org

North Pole – Ketchikan – Fairbanks – Anchorage – Kotzebue – Juneau – Shemya



Honorable Craig Johnson
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capital Room
Juneau AK 99801

Representative Johnson:

My name is Tom Wescott and I'm the President of the Alaska Professional Firefighters Association. The AKPFFA represents roughly 500 firefighters from Kotzebue to Ketchikan and on behalf of these hard workingmen and women I'm writing you today to encourage our Alaska State legislators to support HB 304.

HB 304 will reassign a seat on the Alaska Fire Standards Council to the Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association (AKPFFA). We feel the importance behind this reassignment is to better coordinate with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), the parent organization to the AKPFFA, to which the Council references training and certification standards for education here in Alaska. The IAFF has a vast well-respected library of training modules and proven standards that they have compiled for the fire service since 1918. This relationship will open up those paths making it easier for the Council to access this information along with education towards receiving grants that can assist smaller departments with training needs, an obvious benefit for our small town Alaska fire departments.

The seat that the AKPFFA is asking to reassign to their organization is a seat that is represented by a city consisting of a population greater than 2,500. This seat historically has been filled by a firefighter from either the city of Fairbanks or the city of Anchorage, both to which our organization represents.

The AKPFFA has had extensive meetings and discussions with the Standards Council on this legislation. The council is positive on this reassignment knowing it will bring a voice to the table not only representing roughly 500 Alaskan Fire Fighters from some of Alaska's largest cities, but also a valuable tool with international resources for training and standards education.

Thanks for your support on this legislation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Wescott".

Thomas A. Wescott
President AKPFFA
PO Box 111222
Anchorage, AK 99511



ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

2358 Bradway Road, North Pole, Alaska 99705

Phone: (907) 488-3400

FAX: (907) 488-6118

February 12, 2012

To: Representative Johnson

Reference: House Bill 304, "An Act relating to the membership of the Alaska Fire Standards Council."

Dear Rep. Johnson,

On behalf of the Alaska Fire Chief's Association I want to thank you for sponsoring House Bill 304. HB 304 will allow the Alaska Fire Chief's Association and the Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association to join with the Alaska State Firefighters Association in contributing to the success of the Alaska Fire Standards Council.

The Alaska Fire Standards Council's mission is: "To establish professional standards for fire service personnel, and curriculum requirements for the certification of training programs." The mission of the Standards Council's compliments the mission of the Alaska Fire Chief's Association which is: "To serve the people of the State of Alaska by influencing fire and emergency service programs and legislation; advancement of fire and emergency services professionals; and providing for the safety and well-being of firefighters and their communities."

Each of our associations works to improve the fire service in Alaska. The Fire Standards Council has a direct impact on how we provide those services to our residents and visitors. By having a seat on the Council we each would have a representative who would speak for all of the members of our associations and would allow us to better work with the Fire Standards Council in order to accomplish its mission.

The Fire Standards Council and its members unanimously support the inclusion of the Alaska Fire Chief's and Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Associations on the Council and we encourage all legislators to support HB 304.

I would like to again thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Tucker", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Tucker, Fire Chief
Chair, Alaska Fire Chief's Association Legislative Committee

February 23, 2012

Honorable Craig Johnson
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol Room 216
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Representative Johnson,

The Alaska State Firefighters Association supports the changes to the Fire Standards Council that is being presented by HB 304. As a member of the Fire Standards Council at the time the change was presented, I did have some input into these changes. As president of the ASFA I, believe that the change from Administrative Officer to ASFA Member will allow us to continue to have good representation filling on the Fire Standards Council. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 907-738-0601. Thank you.

Sincerely

Robert Dennard,
President
Alaska State Firefighters Association
209 Park Street
Sitka, AK 99835