



## Southeast Alaska Building Industry Association

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March 11, 2009

Senator Donny Olson  
Chairman, Community & Regional Affairs Committee  
State Capitol Room 514  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Olson:

As President of the Southeast Building Association I represent over 85 members locally, in turn our association is affiliated with the Alaska State Home Building Association (ASHBA). I want to express my support for ASHBA's push to stop fire sprinkler mandates for the State of Alaska and Northern Southeast in particular.

As such, we strongly support the passage of *Senate Bill 129 "An Act relating to state and municipal building code requirements for fire sprinkler systems in certain residential buildings."* This legislation is critical to eliminate any and all future requirements for the State of Alaska or a local jurisdiction to mandate a requirement for the costly installation of fire sprinkler systems in one and two-family dwellings.

It has been proven with the increased safety features being utilized in the construction of newer one and two-family dwellings in recent years that the safety of the occupants has increased dramatically, and injuries due to fires has significantly been reduced during the past twenty years.

We feel due to the burden of increased costs, maintenance issues, and all other concerns pertaining to cold climate installations that it is not necessary to mandate the installation of fire sprinkler systems in one and two-family dwellings. Therefore, we support the ASHBA's position in working to get this legislation passed.

If you have any additional questions you can contact me at 321-3298.

Sincerely,

**John Wood**  
**President**  
**Southeast Alaska Building Industry Association**