

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES SEATON, Olson, Gruenberg

Introduced: 1/20/09

Referred: Labor and Commerce

A RESOLUTION

1 **Encouraging the installation of fire sprinkler systems in residences.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **WHEREAS** statistics show that the state suffers many fatalities along with millions of
4 dollars of property loss because of residential structure fires, with the statistics climbing each
5 year; and

6 **WHEREAS** national studies by the United States Fire Administration indicate that the
7 installation of residential fire sprinkler systems could have saved thousands of lives,
8 prevented injuries, and eliminated hundreds of millions of dollars in property losses; and

9 **WHEREAS** establishing a program to encourage installation of residential fire
10 sprinkler systems is likely to reduce the incidence of fire and should be reflected in insurance
11 rates for residences where fire sprinkler systems are installed; and

12 **WHEREAS** the state fire marshal plans to establish a model program to recognize
13 that installing residential fire sprinkler systems reduces fire hazard and to rate residences
14 based on sprinkler system coverage using platinum, gold, and silver stars to recognize various
15 levels of sprinkler coverage; and

16 **WHEREAS** installing fire sprinkler systems covering identified residential ignition

1 sources will reduce the incidence of residential fires in rural and suburban areas of the state;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS** a plumber can install sprinkler systems covering identified ignition
4 sources and can verify the existence of residential fire sprinkler systems to the state fire
5 marshal; and

6 **WHEREAS** the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems will help reduce the
7 burden on local fire departments and local fire service areas; and

8 **WHEREAS** the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems will provide added
9 protection for the state's most vulnerable residents: children, senior citizens, and persons with
10 disabilities;

11 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the state fire
12 marshal to formalize the model residential fire sprinkler system program as a statewide
13 program; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the insurance
15 industry to recognize the benefits of increased fire protection by lowering insurance rates
16 based on the statewide residential safety star program implemented by the state fire marshal;
17 and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the division of
19 insurance to recognize incentives for homeowners that encourage installation of residential
20 fire sprinkler systems to help reduce the incidence of residential fires in the state; and be it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the
22 Department of Labor and Workforce Development, working with the state fire marshal and
23 other groups, to train and certify plumbers and others to install or certify residential fire
24 sprinkler systems.