



House Bill No. 322

***“An Act relating to winter tires; and
providing for an effective date.”***

February 16, 2010





THE PURPOSE

**To create a higher level of safety
during winter driving months for
ALL Alaskans.**



BRAKE TESTING



Video



BRAKE TESTING

Video



LATERAL TESTING



Video



LATERAL TESTING



Video



THE REASON

- **Approximately 90% of Alaskans drive on All-Season or Summer tires in the winter.**
- **These tires are completely inadequate for all types of winter time driving.**

ALL-SEASON TIRES

- **All-Season tires are manufactured with generic Carbon Black compounding focusing on mileage.**
- **This compounding loses gripping capabilities at 38 degrees by 50%.**
- **At 15 degrees the tire's gripping capabilities are less than 10%.**





WINTER TIRES SAVE LIVES

- **Winter tires are manufactured with specific compounds, tread patterns and advanced studding systems designed for winter driving conditions.**
- **The sidewall of a winter tire has been designated with the Government's Severe Service Emblem.**





WINTER TIRES SAVE LIVES

- **Winter compounds remain pliable up to -40 degrees.**
- **Tread Patterns expel snow, slush and ice away from the driving path.**
- **Studs provide the highest level of traction in the most severe winter driving conditions, such as polished ice.**



WINTER TIRES SAVE LIVES

- **The are several designated winter tires that can be purchased for year round use.**
- **For example:**
 - **Nokian WR G2**
 - **Hankook iPike**
 - **BF Goodrich**



THE FACTS - ALASKA

2007

- **6,635 or 63% of all accidents occur during winter driving months, including accidents on dry pavement.**
- **50% of these crashes occurred on ice.**
 - **Black ice**
 - **Polished ice**
- **55% of the 6,635 accidents involved 4-Wheel drive vehicles.**



BENEFITS OF LEGISLATION





FINLAND

- **Population: 5.3 million**
- **Performed most extensive and comprehensive socio-economic study regarding the mandatory use of winter tires, setting a benchmark for future studies.**
- **Results showed an economic/moral benefit to winter tire use.**
- **Results included millions of dollars of savings in medical and life insurance costs, personal property and State and Federal costs associated with accidents.**
- **1995 – passed legislation requiring the use of winter tires.**



SWEDEN

- **Population: 9.0 million**
- **1999 – passed legislation requiring the use of winter tires.**
- **Result - Accidents involving major injuries and fatalities have decreased between 11-14% annually.**



QUEBEC

- **Population: 7.8 million**
- **2008 – passed legislation requiring the use of winter tires.**
- **Prior to legislation statistics showed that 68% of accidents that occurred during the winter involved at least one vehicle that was equipped with all-season tires.**
- **Official numbers show a decrease of 42% in winter time accidents in 2009.**



GERMANY

- **Population: 82.4 million**
- **2006 - starts winter driving Public Service Announcements encouraging the use of winter tires.**

<u>Cause</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Winter Time Accidents	12,359	9,754	5,230
		-21.0%	-46.4%

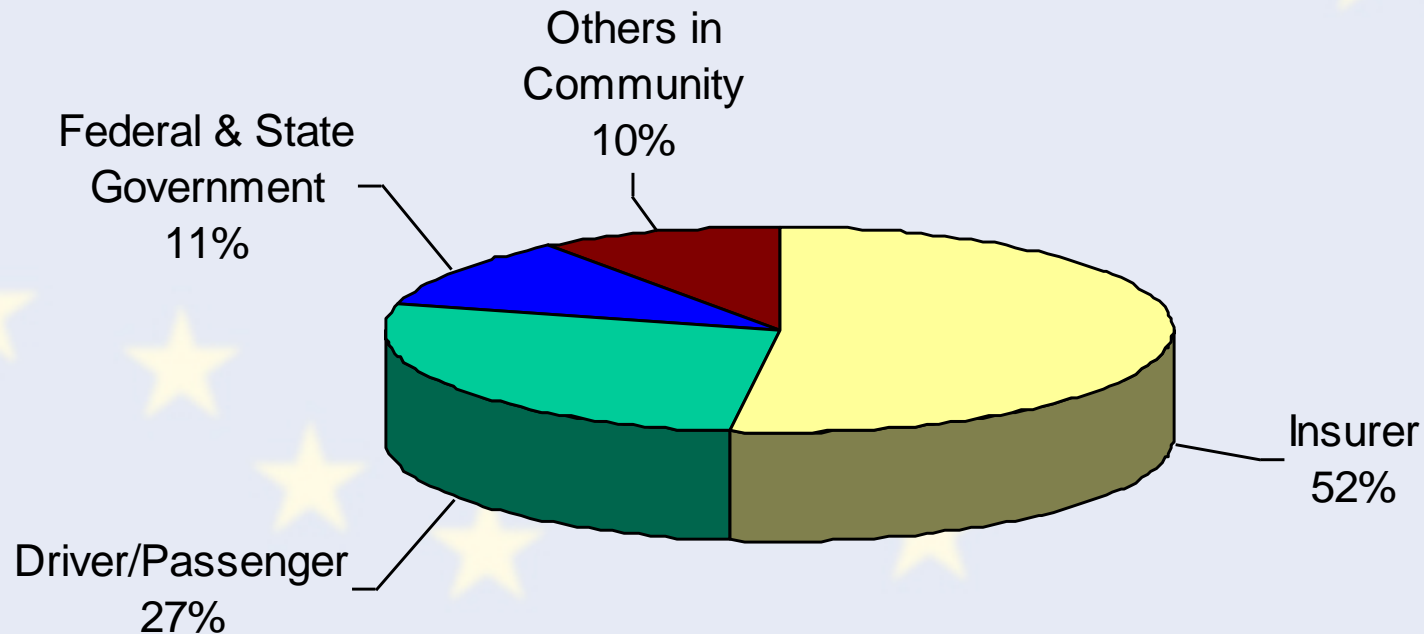


IN THE CASE OF STUDS...

- **Studies suggest studded winter tires reduce the crash rate in winter by up to 10%.**
- **These “avoided crashes” save Alaskans approximately \$26,000,000 per year in economic costs.**

IN THE CASE OF STUDS...

Who benefits the most from the \$26,000,000 savings?





THE TRICKLE DOWN EFFECT

- **As accidents decrease...**
- **Monies paid out will decrease...**
- **Causing insurance premiums to decrease...**
- **Resulting in Alaskans' Out-of-pocket expenses to decrease.**

The economic costs of crashes include Medical Costs, Emergency Services, Vocation Rehabilitation, Market Productivity, Household Productivity, Insurance Administration, Workplace Costs, Legal Costs, Travel Time, Property Damage



LEGISLATION OF WINTER TIRES

- **Legislation of winter tires will:**
 - **SAVE LIVES.**
 - **PROTECT ALASKANS.**
 - **CREATE JOBS.**
 - **SAVE ALASKANS MONEY.**