

ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

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March 1, 2010

Senator Joe Paskvan Chairman, Senate Labor and Commerce Committee State Capitol Room 7 Juneau AK, 99801

Subject: SB129 Residential Sprinklers

Dear Senator Paskvan,

The Alaska Fire Chiefs Association has had the opportunity to review a proposed substitute for SB129. After review of the substitute we want to reaffirm our strong opposition to this legislation.

CS SB129, as drafted, places an increased financial burden on communities who already have code adoption processes in place, as required by State Statute 29.25. There is no State need met by requiring local communities to add additional requirements and expense to their current process.

The State does not place this extraordinary burden on local communities for other ordinance adoption processes. Why is it that the State feels it necessary to do so when a community is trying to determine how best to provide life safety services to its residents? If a local community feels that it is in their best interest to increase public notification, hold additional hearings, and do a cost benefit analysis they have the right at the local level to make that determination. The State should not impose an unfunded and unneeded mandate upon local communities for only this single issue.

The Alaska Fire Chiefs Association stands opposed to the adoption of SB129.

Sincerely,

Jeff Tucker, President

Alaska Fire Chiefs Association