

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 53 – AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY RATINGS AND EQUIPMENT

This legislation updates state statutory language to present air carrier industry standards. The ambiguity of the current language creates conflicts between business operators and state and federal aviation regulators.

SB 53 proposes to give common ground between operators and regulators, eliminating confusion and allowing for both efficient operator practices and government regulation.

Current industry standards include sophisticated safety and locator equipment allowing for fast emergency response, making some safety and emergency equipment unnecessary. Additionally, airlines operating larger aircraft in scheduled service in Alaska are required by Federal Aviation Regulations to carry suitable seasonal survival gear for all occupants. I urge your support as the proposal will give operators more time, funding, and aircraft space to provide better and efficient service to their customers throughout the State of Alaska.