

## Additional Documents *for* **HB 293**

- Support emails received
  - Albee
  - Athey
  - Axtell
  - Carlson
  - Clime
  - Flynn
  - Hill Koklich
  - McIntyre
  - Miller
  - Stubblefield
  - Thordarson
  - Vignola
  - Vincent

**Nancy Manly**

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**From:** Mike Albee <mike.albee.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:05 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** HB 293

Please ensure the designation on license plates be Active or Retired. This should be the same for both Volunteer and Paid responders.

Best Regards,

Mike Albee  
Greater Prudhoe Bay Fire Department (Active)

**“In GOD We Trust”**

## **Nancy Manly**

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**From:** Eddie Athey <eathey@cityofseward.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2014 10:01 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Cc:** Michael Paschall  
**Subject:** HB 293

To whom it may concern:

I am writing today in support of the changes proposed by HB 293 on behalf of firefighters in my area and all across our great State. Although this is a seemingly minor language change there is a great deal of significance and pride between the term of “Former” or “Retired”!

Even with clarification language of 10 years of service there is still a connotation associated with “Former” that could be anyone who has ever served as an emergency responder. The designation “Retired” leaves no doubt that an individual has given selflessly to their community for at least 20 or more years, which holds true across the nation through all levels of service and matters not if an individual was paid or volunteered....service is service!

Thank you so much for your support and your service!

Eddie

Edward Athey

Fire Chief / Building Official

City of Seward

President, Alaska State Firefighters Association

(907) 224-3445 wk

(907) 224-8633 fax

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Bruce N. Axtell <baxtell@mtaonline.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2014 11:10 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** Retired plate

I personally would really like to get one of the "Retired" Fire Department plates when I retire. Please pass this on to the powers that be.

Bruce N. Axtell

Deputy Fire Chief

Palmer Fire & Rescue

645 E. Cope Industrial Way

Palmer, Alaska 99645

907-745-2979

[baxtell@mtaonline.net](mailto:baxtell@mtaonline.net)

[baxtell@palmerak.org](mailto:baxtell@palmerak.org)



## **Nancy Manly**

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**From:** Gary Carlson <Gary.Carlson@north-slope.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:20 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** FW: HB 293

Please note my preference firefighter license designation for both paid and volunteer be Active and Retired. Thank you.

Gary Carlson, Barrow Fire Chief

P.O. Box 069

Barrow, AK 99723

Email: [gary.carlson@north-slope.org](mailto:gary.carlson@north-slope.org)

Phone: 907.852.0234 ext 662

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Clime, Richard D (DOC) <richard.clime@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:14 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Cc:** Suzy Hill  
**Subject:** FW: LICENSE PLATE BILL BEING HEARD THIS MORNING

Hello Nancy,

My name is Rych Clime, and I'm a retired volunteer firefighter in Juneau. I was asked to make my spill to the License Plate Bill that is up for hearing.

As a longtime volunteer firefighter, EMT-I, and driver/engineer with the Capital City Fire Rescue, I also happen to represent the Alaska State Firefighters Association, not only as a current Board of Directors representative, but also as an ASFA Life Long Member (recently voted in with doing 20+ years as a ASFA member in good standing). As a volunteer firefighter, it is a different realm of how long a volunteer last versus a paid/career firefighter. I once said to my chief, the national census of a volunteer lasting is 5 year average. He said he'd be happy if we could each volunteer a full year.

With all the new regulations of what is expected of a volunteer firefighter (as well as a career firefighter), all the new laws and OSHA requirements, that keep active volunteer volumes down. I remember in Juneau, we used to be the biggest ASFA chapter in the state with 250+ volunteers alone (not including the career staff head count). These numbers are dwindling to barely 20-25, this is not just in Juneau, but across other communities across Alaska and across our great nation.

For those that volunteer, having a license plate in honor of them would be a HUGE incentive for staying active as volunteer firefighter (regardless if it's firefighting, EMS or both combined). The ground rules would apply to be able to have a state license plate as a "retired" firefighter is more or less towards those that volunteer their time, but there are credentials that meet that requirement to have and honor that license plate.

To have a license plate that states "retired" versus "formal" is different levels of what the credential would fall under. You don't see a "veteran" (military) license plate versus a "formal military" license plate. You don't see a Alaska Kids license plate versus a "formal kid" license plate.

I think that having a "Retired" license plate would benefit the volunteer who made a difference, stuck with program of serving his/her community and be proud to honor that license plate as would a military "Veteran" would.

Please consider these option. Even though I'm a retired volunteer firefighter, I'm still a "Supporter" of the fire services. As we always say "Once a firefighter, Always a firefighter". I may not be volunteering/firefighting, but I'm always doing "behind the scene", stuff still to this date, making things happened for volunteer firefighters within the State of Alaska and any other fire service related issues that needs address, regardless if it's volunteering or a career firefighter. And I don't want to wait another 20 years to wait for something I would support my state on to realizing the little request the fire dept's represent and ask of our volunteers that respond in the middle of the night, away from their families, training on their own time and also carrying another job or two to make ends meet but still represent their community and state in good standing as the community see that volunteer as a "hero" regardless on the scene, in the scene or behind the scene.

Thank you,

*Richard D. Clime*



**RYCH CLIME**  
Accounting Tech I

Alaska Department of Corrections  
P.O. Box 112000 • Juneau, AK 99811-2000  
Office: (907) 465-3471 • Fax: (907) 465-1856  
richard.clime@alaska.gov

★ CHOOSE RESPECT ★

-----Original Message-----

From: Suzie Hill Koklich [<mailto:arkalaska@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:31 AM

To: Alaska Fire Standards Council; Jennifer Stubblefield; Sean Wisner; akfst; Clime, Richard D (DOC); Edie Athey; Janice Melvin

Cc: Robert Dennard; [moosepassfireems@yahoo.com](mailto:moosepassfireems@yahoo.com); BillieJo Gehring; Grimes, Dan (DOT); Mike Waide; Mike Weber; Matt Smelcer; Brandy Smelcer; Bryan Vincent; Rhonda Williams

Subject: LICENSE PLATE BILL BEING HEARD THIS MORNING

Please send an email to [nancy.manly@akleg.gov](mailto:nancy.manly@akleg.gov), referencing HB 293. Let them know that we would like the destinations of Active and Retired and not former and why. One legislator said he didn't know volunteers could retire.....what we work for free forever? And career folks DO retire, they are NOT former!

Please do this ASAP AS THIS BILL IS COMING FORWARD THIS MORNING. And ask any other firefighter/ems folks you know to do the same

Thanks!

Suzie

Suzie Hill Koklich  
Alaska Director  
National Volunteer Fire Council  
P.O. 876  
Valdez, Alaska. 99686  
907-835-4246 Home  
907-831-1975 Cell  
E-mail: [arkalaska@yahoo.com](mailto:arkalaska@yahoo.com)  
Sent from my iPad

## **Nancy Manly**

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**From:** Mitch Flynn <Mitch.Flynn@steesefire.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:23 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** FW: HB 293

Hi Nancy,

Please add my support to “Retired instead of “Former” to License plates. Thank you!

Mitch

**From:** Mitch Flynn  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:28 AM  
**To:** 'Representative.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov'  
**Subject:** HB 293

Good Morning Tammie,

Is this a bill you can support? I have volunteers who have retired (no pay) and one who is planning on retiring this summer after 34 years with Steese VFD. I would like to see the word “Retired” on the specialty license plate and not “Former”. Call me if you have any questions!

**Mitch Flynn, Fire Chief**

Steese Volunteer Fire Department

800 William C Leary Lane

Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

(907) 457-1519 Direct Office

(907) 457-3710 Admin

(907) 347-7685 Cell

[mitch.flynn@steesefire.org](mailto:mitch.flynn@steesefire.org)



Good Morning Tammie,

Is this a bill you can support? I have volunteers who have retired (no pay) and one who is planning on retiring this summer after 34 years with Steese VFD. I would like to see the word "Retired" on the license plate and not "Former".

Mitch Flynn, Fire Chief

Steese Volunteer Fire Department

800 William C Leary Lane

Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

(907) 457-1519 Direct Office

(907) 457-3710 Admin

(907) 347-7685 Cell

[mitch.flynn@steesefire.org](mailto:mitch.flynn@steesefire.org)

\* HB 293 - Bear License Plates

Sponsored by Rep. Peggy Wilson

HB 293 will correct an error from a prior bill intended to allow retired firefighters and emergency medical service providers the honor of purchasing a plate indicating "Retired". Currently statute indicates "former", this will change that to "retired" which was the original intent of the bill.

HB 293 would allow for a second license plate to be chosen as the state's primary plate. Currently the primary license plate is a plain yellow background. This bill would allow residents to have a choice between the plain yellow and a plate that has a bear insignia - very similar to one of our most popular plates back in 1976.

Lastly, this bill will provide the Commissioner of Administration, Motor Vehicles Division the ability to develop a procedure to work directly with individuals or groups to create personalized background designed registration plates. It will require the Commissioner to develop a standardized template, process and fees for all applications.

This bill will be revenue neutral as it would require that the cost of specialized plates be fully covered by those making the request.

This will relieve the Legislature from the responsibility and time that it takes each session to approve specialty plates

Suzie Hill Koklich

Alaska Director

National Volunteer Fire Council

P.O. 876

Valdez, Alaska. 99686

907-835-4246 Home

907-831-1975 Cell

E-mail: [arkalaska@yahoo.com](mailto:arkalaska@yahoo.com)

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Suzie Hill Koklich <arkalaska@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:39 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Cc:** Michael Paschall  
**Subject:** HB 293

As a VOLUNTEER firefighter with 33 years of service to my community and state, i was thrilled to be recognized a few years back when the legislature approve a firefighter license plate. What I was not happy with was the designation of "former" vs our wish as a group for the term "retired". Please remove the "former" designation and replace it with "retired". I hope to one day proudly display a "retired" fire service p,ate on my vehicle. I don't think that is much to ask in return for my and others years of volunteerism to help keep our communities prepared and safe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Suzie

Suzie Hill Koklich  
Alaska Director  
National Volunteer Fire Council  
P.O. 876  
Valdez, Alaska. 99686  
907-835-4246 Home  
907-831-1975 Cell  
E-mail: [arkalaska@yahoo.com](mailto:arkalaska@yahoo.com)  
Sent from my iPad

## **Nancy Manly**

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**From:** McIntyre, James M. <James.McIntyre@alaska-pipeline.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:12 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** REQUEST: HB 293 LICENSE PLATE BILL

We (I and several of my colleges) request that the designation on license plates be changed from the current "Former" to "Retired" as listed in the work draft sponsored by Rep Peggy Wilson.

'Former' does not portray the proper status for the individuals on these plates. Yes, volunteers retire from service. And career members retire.

**James McIntyre**

**Active EMS Member**

Mobile 907.831.9102

Valdez, AK 99686

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Dave Miller <davem@cityofsitka.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:31 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** HB293  
**Attachments:** David E Miller.vcf

Hello Nancy,

I was told that you are the person to write a quick note to on HB293 . I am the Fire Chief of Sitka and a very active member of the Alaska State Firefighters Association and have worked on the Emergency Responder license plate issue for a number of years. I have heard that this bill is coming up to today in Juneau and would like to request that these license plates either have ACTIVE for active members of a department or Retired for members that have put in their time and have retired.

Thanks very much for listening for me.

Dave Miller

**David E. Miller**

Fire Chief  
Sitka Fire Department  
209 Lake St.  
Sitka AK. 99835

(907) 747-1860 Work  
(907) 738-6890 Cell  
(907) 747-5890 Home  
davem@cityofsitka.com

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Jennifer Stubblefield <jjstubblefield@writeeme.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:53 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** house bill 293

Dear Ms. Manly,

I am a firefighter and am in support of HB 293 with regards to the firefighter portion. It is important that we recognize retired firefighters by allowing them to purchase "Retired" license plates. These firefighters performed a service for their community for several years, and this small token of appreciation allows them to continue to take pride in the fire service.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Stubblefield  
First Vice-President  
Alaska State Firefighters Association

Sent using the free mail.com iPad App

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Meg Thordarson <jnugems@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:19 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** Fwd: HB 293

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Meg Thordarson <jnugems@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** March 27, 2014 at 10:14:36 AKDT  
**To:** "nancy..manly@akleg.gov" <nancy..manly@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 293

The fire plates should be Active for current members and Retired for members that have served but are no longer active . Retired is more positive and shows we value their service weather a volunteer or a career member . Their service to the community is very valued .

Thank you

Meg Thordarson

CCFR Volunteer .

[jnugems@yahoo.com](mailto:jnugems@yahoo.com)

907-723-7787

## Nancy Manly

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**From:** Vignola, James F. <VignolaJF@ci.anchorage.ak.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:54 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** HB 293

Dear Ms. Manly,

I am writing to you to express my understanding of the words "retired" firefighter and "former" firefighter. A retired firefighter is one who worked, or volunteered, in the fire service, dedicated at least 20 years of their life to the service, and left (retired) as a member in good standing. A former firefighter is anyone who worked in the fire service who quit before they tenured or was fired or asked to resign from the service. The last thing I would want to see is an individual who volunteered for a year or was fired from the job, driving around with a "Retired Firefighter" license plate.

The current Fire Chief of the department should have to sign the request for such a license plate to ensure the member left in good standing.

Respectfully,

*Jim Vignola*

*DEPUTY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS  
ANCHORAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
100 E 4<sup>TH</sup> AVE.  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
(907) 267-5091 OFFICE  
(907) 529-0997 MOBILE  
[VIGNOLAJF@MUNI.ORG](mailto:VIGNOLAJF@MUNI.ORG)*



## **Nancy Manly**

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**From:** Bryan Vincent <bvincent.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 9:06 AM  
**To:** Nancy Manly  
**Subject:** License Plate Bill

Good morning,

I am writing this morning to give my input on the firefighter license plate bill that is going to be heard this morning.

I would like to see the designations changed to say Active or Retired. These designations work for all firefighters, whether Paid or Volunteer. All firefighters have the ability to retire at the end of their career. I believe the title of Retired is considerably more honorable than Former.

Thank you for your time.

Bryan Vincent