

Alaska State Legislature

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Senator Lesil McGuire

Sponsor Statement for Senate Bill 45

**"An Act setting special registration fees for alternative fuel vehicles;
and providing for an effective date."**

Senate Bill 45 is a progressive approach to providing incentives to the public for this new technology. It will help air quality issues and promote additional jobs through the application of this new technology and line of products.

The automotive industry is undergoing a significant transformation toward electrification of the automobile. Incentives encourage many stakeholders and consumers to move forward with necessary changes, accelerate the deployment of second and third generations of the technology and achieve economies of scale more quickly; all leading to reductions in the cost of this new technology.

Plug-in electric vehicles are coming. This legislation will help us prepare Alaska to be the "First Frontier" for advanced technology and readily support its introduction. Many states are already putting various types of incentives in place to attract these sorts of vehicles; driving new investment and new skill development, while at the same time displacing petroleum and reducing local vehicle emissions.

CNG vehicles will also help to displace petroleum and reduce emissions. They, too, can help Alaska diversify our energy requirements and help to insulate us from potential shocks to the State's oil supply. In addition, to the public benefits, promoting the sale of CNG vehicles will lower operating costs for consumers at a time when fuel costs represent an increasing portion of Alaskan family and small business budgets.

This bill shows that Alaska welcomes advanced technology and is getting itself "Plug-in Ready." I urge your support for this important bill.