



April 8, 2014

Alaska State Legislator  
Senator Mike Dunleavy  
[Sen.MikeDunleavy@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.MikeDunleavy@akleg.gov)  
(907) 465-6600

Dear Senator Dunleavy,

I write to you today on behalf of the concerned membership of the Mat-Su Homes Builders Association (MSHBA) for the following bills:

**SB189**, relating to exemption from regulation of construction contractors, is still pending in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee. This bill would limit the ability of an unlicensed contractor to sell homes under the “owner-builder” exemption.

It is my understanding that there have been no hearings since the initial hearing. I have found that in discussions with members of the committee, there have been two questions; The MSHBA’s responses to the two questions brought forth are in green.

- 1) Would contractors prefer to remove all licensing requirements rather than try to enforce existing laws? Absolutely not! For the safety of all consumers and the general public, it would be detrimental to remove the licensing requirements on what is undoubtedly the most significant purchase of their lifetime; their HOME. Licensing absolutely should be enforced.
- 2) What is the definition of “completion” of a project? Depending on the local governing jurisdiction for building requirements, it could be the Certificate of Occupancy issued by a Municipality or the PUR102 Summary of Building Inspections completely signed off, with all life and safety issues addressed and/or corrected. This process ensures that the structure has had inspections throughout the construction stage - whether through a local municipality, borough or governing agency.

SB189 still has a chance to pass this session – but it needs to get moving! The MSHBA respectfully requests for this bill to be moved from the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee.

**SB193**, relating to bonds required for contractors, is still pending in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee. This bill would increase contractor bonding requirements, and would repeal the unlicensed handyman exemption.

**There have been no hearings since the initial hearing. Please see what can be done to get this moving in the right direction.**

**Our association appreciates all you've done for your constituents thus far and are eager to see what transpires in the near future.**

**Sincerely,**

*Shiela Fern*

**MSHBA President**