



REPRESENTATIVE CATHY TILTON
ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 319

"An Act relating to registration fees for snowmobiles and off-highway vehicles."

Passage of House Bill 319 would increase two-year snowmobile registration fees from \$10 to \$20 and allow a six-year registration fee of \$50.

The measure has support from snow machine users as a way to help the state during cash-strapped times and back funding to develop and maintain snowmobile trails and provide safety and educational programs.

Current snowmobile registration fees generate up to \$250,000 a year for the Snowmobile Trail Development Program which is managed by the Department of Natural Resources' Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation and the nine-member Snowmobile Trails Advisory Council (SnowTRAC).

SnowTRAC approved a resolution last August in support of the provisions of HB 319, saying Alaska's snowmobile trails program is revenue-neutral, self-funded, and user-based. The council also said the demands for trail maintenance, development, and safety continue to grow and that support for winter trails brings increased business and recreational opportunities to communities across the state. Indeed, according to the governor's office, snowmobiling is one of Alaska's fastest growing outdoor activities.

HB 319 helps promote this popular activity and enjoys support from users who are willing to pay more for a service they need and enjoy.