



ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 200 Juneau, Alaska 99801

(907) 586-1325 Fax (907) 463-5480

www.alaskafirechiefs.org

March 2, 2018

Representative Jason Grenn
State Capitol Room 418
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Representative Grenn,

On behalf of the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association I am writing to give our support to House Bill 385, "An Act relating to multi-line telephone systems."

Time is critical in any emergency response. The ability for a 911 dispatcher to direct responders to a specific location can truly be a matter of life or death. HB 385 addresses two critical issues that have the potential to delay responders.

In Alaska many organizations use Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) that when someone in need of 911 services dials out from a phone, that phone does not provide the dispatcher with a good location address. This bill will mandate that operators of MLTS provide specific location information up to and including the specific address, floor, or room the call is originating from.

The second part of the bill will implement Kari's Law which requires MLTS operators to program their systems to allow a caller to dial 911 without having to use an additional prefix before dialing.

Both of these requirements will aid first responders in being able to quickly locate and assist those who call for our assistance.

The Alaska Fire Chiefs Association on behalf of all firefighters and EMS responders in Alaska want to thank you for introducing HB385 and we support its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Tucker", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Tucker, President
Alaska Fire Chiefs Association