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The Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS) Supports HB 148

House Bill 148: "An Act relating to the Alaska Coordinate System of 2022." (HB 148) is an amendment of AS 38.20: "The Alaska Coordinate System" to update definitions in the bill to accommodate the upcoming modernization of the Alaska State Plane 2022 Coordinate system that has been developed by the National Geodetic Survey and Alaska stakeholders which include the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS), Alaska DNR, DOT&PF, UAA, UAF and other professional organizations like IRM, ASCE, ASPRS and URISA.

This amendment is needed because private and public industries cannot support the new system unless it is codified into law. It is expected that every state will adopt a similar bill to update their system as well. Currently Washington and Kentucky have passed similar legislation and several other states have pending bills.

This is a part of developing a modern, more functional, state-wide coordinate system for mapping and designing of land, infrastructure, and resources. The bill adds the 2022 system to the systems of 1927 and 1983. The 2022 system uses space based and gravity measurements to vastly improve over the previous systems. Since many original oil leases are based on 1927 and other work relies on 1983, adding 2022 to the statute allows users to use any system necessary.

Jeremy Hurst, PLS 2020 ASPLS President