

March 9, 2012

The Honorable Bill Wielechowski, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska Capitol, Room 101
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Support of SB 208

Dear Chair Wielechowski:

Bill

I'm writing on behalf of Food Bank of Alaska and the state-wide anti-hunger network, in support of SB 208 – Disaster Planning and Services, sponsored by Senator Joe Paskvan.

In times of disaster, access to safe food and water are a critical part of emergency response services. Food Bank of Alaska currently participates in Alaska VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) and also responded in times of disaster at the Miller's Reach and Hooper Bay fires. SB 208 will create an infrastructure that provides for coordinated, comprehensive, and consistent emergency response throughout Alaska. Based on model legislation for intrastate mutual aid systems (IMAS), SB 208 is promoted by the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other emergency response organizations.

Food Bank of Alaska believes that SB 208 will provide an efficient structure for emergency services that will benefit everyone in Alaska. I encourage members of the Senate State Affairs Committee to vote in favor of this legislation.

Should you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me at 907-222-3111 or smorgan@foodbankofalaska.org.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Susannah Morgan
Executive Director

CC: Vice-Chair Joe Paskvan
Senator Cathy Giessel
Senator Albert Kookesh
Senator Kevin Meyer

