

1 March 2012

Cliff Baker, PS
303 E 16th Ave., #306
Anchorage, AK 99501

The Honorable Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 7
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Senate Bill 143

Senator Giessel:

This letter is in support of Senate Bill 143 relative to the amendments to AS 08.48.055 for a full time investigator for the State of Alaska, Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors (AELS Board).

The amendments are for requested to improve the performance of the Boards ability to investigate violations and enforce statutes and regulations related to the public health, safety and welfare in the State of Alaska.

The AELS Board has one of the largest registrant bases in Alaska and several years ago 2-1/2 investigators were assigned to the Board. Presently the AELS Board shares one investigator with six other boards. During this reduction in the number of investigators the work load has increased. With the recession in the lower 48 states a large number of firms and individuals not familiar with our statutes and regulations have relocated to Alaska and are practicing the design professions putting increased pressure on the present part time investigator. In addition to this already increased pressure the AELS Board has just approved a regulation, recently signed by the Lt. Governor, adding nine additional engineering disciplines. It is not possible for one investigator shared with six other boards, to adequately support the AELS Board's charge to enforce the statutes and regulations protecting the public health, safety and welfare.

Your consideration and support of Senate Bill 143 is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Cliff Baker, PS