

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



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Official Business

HB 379

Sponsor Statement

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An Act relating to service areas; and providing for an effective date.

A goal of the Alaska Constitution is to provide the “maximum local self-government with a minimum of local government units.” To accomplish this, Article 10 of the Constitution and Alaska Statute Title 29 define the relationship between local governments, their residents, and the state. Service areas allow residents to benefit from services at the local level and are the form of local government closest to the people. Types of service areas vary from road service areas, fire protection service areas, and parks and recreation service areas.

House Bill 379 establishes a process that will streamline road service area (RSA) creation and annexation without impacting existing RSA's. Of the five second-class boroughs in Alaska that have RSA's (Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Kenai, Kodiak, and Ketchikan), the Fairbanks North Star Borough has 103 RSA's – the most by far! HB 379 will give second-class boroughs the authority to abolish, replace, or alter service areas created after July 1, 2026, or to consolidate two or more service areas created after July 1, 2026. This will help put downward pressure on the number of service areas in second-class boroughs to ensure more efficient and cost-effective delivery of services.

I hope you will join me in supporting HB 379 to ensure more efficient delivery of services in second-class boroughs!

Prepared by Rep. Ashley Carrick's Office.

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