



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Laddie Shaw
Chair, House State Affairs

DATE: Friday, April 7, 2023

FROM: James Cockrell, Commissioner

RE: Hearing Request for HB 146

Please accept this request to schedule House Bill (HB) 146 – REGULATION OF FIREWORKS for consideration by the House State Affairs Committee. HB 146 will repeal statutory restrictions on the sale of fireworks and require the Department of Public Safety to adopt regulations to establish the minimum standards for the sale, storage, distribution, and use of fireworks. Alaska statute (AS) 18.72 was originally adopted over 50 years ago and has not been substantially amended. Consequently, the statute is out of date with modern regulations found in the International Fire Code, National Fire Protection Association Codes, and National Standards.

By repealing the statutory restrictions and adopting regulations, it will enable the department to more readily adapt to and comply with these standards. This change will allow the department to adjust to changes in the fireworks market more quickly and stay current with regulatory approaches by adopting and modifying relevant portions these codes and standards, as necessary.

With this hearing request for HB 146, the following documents are included:

- HB 146 (Version 33-GH1356\A)
- Governor Dunleavy's Transmittal Letter
- HB 146 Sectional Analysis (Version 33-GH1356\A)

The primary testifier for this legislation will be Lloyd Nakano, State Fire Marshal and Director of the Division of Fire and Life Safety. State Fire Marshal Nakano can be reached at (907) 269-5491 or llyod.nakano@alaska.gov. Additional invited testifiers may be added at a later date and will be communicated to the chair in advance in writing.

If you have any questions regarding this hearing request, please feel free to contact the Department of Public Safety Acting Legislative Liaison Lisa Purinton at (907) 764-1127 or lisa.purinton@alaska.gov.

Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Laura Stidolph, Legislative Director, Office of Governor Mike Dunleavy