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SENATOR JOHN COGHILL

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 109: "An Act extending the termination date of the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas in Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

Senate Bill 109 ("SB 109") extends the termination date of the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas in Alaska from June 30, 2014 to June 30, 2021.

The Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas, also known as the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas ("CACFA"), does important work. It is responsible for identifying and reducing potential negative impacts on Alaskans from federal actions on any of the 239 million acres of federal land in the state.

In addition: CACFA considers, recommends, researches, and holds hearings on federal law/congressional intent on a variety of subjects, including: management, planning, operation, development, and proposed additions to federal management areas in Alaska.

As a public service, CACFA also produces the monthly *Alaska Lands Update*. The *Alaska Lands Update* alerts Alaskan citizens on a variety of federal land management topics. The publication is a useful tool that informs citizens of the opportunities to participate in public comment periods. Public comments from local citizens are often vital for federal agencies to draft adequate management plans.

SB 109 ensures that CACFA shall continue its work till at least June 30, 2021. Please join Senator Coghill in supporting this bill.