

ALASKA STATE HOUSE



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REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CRONK

HB- 104 Expedited Timber Sales

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1.

Establishes Purpose of Legislation.

Section 2.

Opens AS 38.05.110 – 38.05.124 to receive Section 3 language.

Section 3.

Commissioner after determining a best interest finding, may expedite sale of timber in:

- Areas subject to high fire danger.
- Areas subject to insect or disease epidemics.
- Harvest amounts must consider needs of existing competing commercial harvests.
- Must conform to sustained yield principles.
- If requested provide negotiated sales of no less than 7 years.

Stumpage rates determined by current market conditions and the need to reduce annual fire risks or insect infestation.

In making the best interest finding the Commissioner shall confirm burned timber or infected timber or is in an area of high fire danger therefore it:

- (1) Creates or will create a public safety issue:
- (2) Results in or may result in the destruction of habitat or decrease in wildlife populations:
- (3) Affects, or may affect soil stability:
- (4) Negatively affects business that depend on steady long-term supply of timber:
- (5) Eliminates or may eliminate other commercially viable or better uses for timber such as the likelihood of commercial success of locally manufactured high valuable-added wood products.

(e) Nothing in this new section interferes with ongoing established sales.

(f) Defines “expedited timber sale” as meaning a sale that shortens the time frame for each step of the timber sale process and concentrates personnel actions to maximize the amount of qualifying burnt, infected, diseased or threatened timber available for harvest.