

Adopted: 03/17/15

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-027**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 87 AND SENATE BILL 32, AN ACT RELATING TO THE SALE OF TIMBER ON STATE LAND, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages over 9.5 million acres of forest land in the Borough and timber harvesting is allowed on 2.1 million acres of this land; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 87 and Senate Bill 32 would clarify that the DNR commissioner may determine which applicable method is in the best interest of the state for each timber sale; and

WHEREAS, the proposed bill would allow the DNR to offer negotiated timber sales for up to 25 years statewide, currently such sales are restricted to areas of high unemployment, excess manufacturing capacity, and excess allowable cut, which limits them to remote areas; and

WHEREAS, it would specify that negotiated sales must comply with the requirements for Forest Land Use Plans (Alaska Statute 38.05.112) and five-year schedules of timber sales (Alaska Statutes 38.05.113), this ensures that large negotiated sales are developed with adequate notice to the industry, the general public and necessary site-specific design; and

WHEREAS, it would also clarify that DNR may negotiate sales to wood fiber users, including biomass energy producers, in addition to wood product manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, by eliminating some of the criteria, the Division of Forestry would have the ability to use this timber sale authority for future timber sales; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Division of Forestry's preferred method of selling timber will be by competitive bids as opposed to negotiation, but sometimes there are good reasons for a negotiated sale and this proposed change would allow them to have that option.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly supports the adoption of House Bill 87 and Senate Bill 32.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this
17 day of March, 2015.


LARRY DeVILBISS, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Sykes, Beck, Arvin, Colligan, Mayfield,
Doty, and Halter