

REPRESENTATIVE
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House District 12

House Resources Committee Co-Chair
Education Committee
Transportation Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives

During Session:
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SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 170 -- providing an exemption to municipal property tax for certain volunteer emergency services personnel and the widows and widowers of volunteer emergency services personnel.

Volunteers provide vital emergency services to local communities, protecting life and property. Today Alaskans spend more personal time working to pay the high cost of energy and fuel, commit more time to their families, and spend more time enjoying recreational activities in the Greatland. Alaskans have less time to commit to help their neighbors and others in need.

I have introduced House Bill 170 to promote volunteerism in Alaska's emergency services by providing an incentive to qualified emergency service volunteers. These volunteers often spend significant money out of their own pocket, especially through the use of personal vehicles. In many situations the time volunteered means a loss of income.

These volunteers are your neighbors who leave work during the middle of the day to help someone in need. They get up at three in the morning to help the neighbor who called in a fire alarm, or who is suffering chest pain. They'll say they're just doing their job. They never ask anything in return.

This bill is an opportunity for us to reward and honor our neighbors who willingly give their time and resources to help others and make our communities and families safe.