



Alaska Association of REALTORS  
*The Voice of Real Estate in Alaska*  
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March 13, 2009

The Honorable Linda Menard  
Alaska Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

***RE: SB 129 - "An act relating to state and municipal building code requirements for fire sprinkler systems in certain residential buildings."***

Dear Senator Menard,

The Alaska Association of REALTORS® with over 1,600 members statewide supports Senate Bill 129, which relates residential sprinklers in certain residential buildings.

The Alaska Association of REALTORS® supports SB 129, which is a proactive response to a national movement to require fire sprinkler systems in one and two-family residential dwellings.

Senate Bill 129 would ensure that residential fire sprinklers remain voluntary and still allow local municipalities and private insurance companies to offer incentives to homeowners who choose to make the investment.

The Association would like to extend the exemption in this bill from one and two family up to and including fourplexes which would comply with residential lending guidelines and would offer more affordable housing by decreasing the construction costs of one-four family residential units.

Installation of residential fire sprinkler systems for one-four family residential units should not be required by state or local governments. To require these systems, especially in a cold climate region like Alaska, would raise the cost of affordable housing while providing the least cost efficient increase in fire safety for the homeowner.

The Association encourages the passage of Senate Bill 129.

Sincerely,

Art Clark  
AAR President