Alaska Legislature House Special Committee on Energy

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SPONSOR STATEMENT – HB 305

"An Act relating to energy; relating to the board of directors of the Alaska Energy Authority; amending the size and composition of the board of directors of the Alaska Energy Authority by removing the members of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority as directors of the Alaska Energy Authority and providing for designation or appointment of other members; amending the quorum requirement for the board of directors of the Alaska Energy Authority; and relating to nuclear waste material."

The 2010 Omnibus Energy Bill is the result of a year-long effort by the House Special Committee on Energy to have meaningful energy legislation pass this session. The bill ties together nine bills that were introduced last session into one bill that will help establish the overall framework necessary to make affordable and reliable energy available to all Alaskans.

The following bills were incorporated into the omnibus energy bill:

- HB148 Energy Efficiency Standards for Public Buildings (Gara)
- HB191 Nuclear Power Production (Johnson)
- HB196 Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Fund (HENE)
- HB218 State Dept of Energy (HENE)
- HB219 Renewable Energy Grant Requirements (HENE)
- SB31 Renewable Energy Tax Credits (McGuire)
- SB71 Alternative Energy Systems for Public Works (Therriault)
- SB121 Energy Efficiency Standards for Public Buildings (SRES)
- SB150 Emerging Energy Technology Fund (McGuire)

House Bill 305 is the product of about a dozen field hearings held outside of Juneau, in communities on and off the road system. Hundreds of Alaskans testified about energy issues in their region and how the state can help the communities to help themselves.

Co-chairs Rep. Bryce Edgmon, D-Dillingham, and Rep. Charisse Millett, R-Anchorage, believe the omnibus bill is the critical first step to addressing the long-term energy needs of all Alaskans.

All the materials submitted at the field hearings and to create the omnibus energy bill are posted on the House Energy Webpage:

http://www.housemajority.org/coms/hene/hene_background.php

The legislation was referred to the House Special Committee on Energy and the House Resources and Finance Committees.