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REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CHENAULT SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

SPONSOR STATEMENT HOUSE BILL 189

"An Act providing for the transfer of information of Alaska Gasline Development Corporation; and providing for an effective date."

In 2010, the 26th Alaska Legislature passed House Bill 369 requiring the development of an in-state natural gas pipeline plan to be delivered to the legislature by July 1, 2011, that provides for a natural gas pipeline that is operational by December 31, 2015. The Alaska Gasline Development Corporation has been established under AS 18.56.086 for this purpose and is working to meet its July 1, 2011 mandate. Progress reports are provided to the legislature from the Corporation on a monthly basis.

The Chair of the Joint In-State Gasline Development team has requested bill language that will allow the Corporation to enter into confidentiality agreements that would not be subject to public disclosure. This action is necessary to allow the Joint In-State Gasline Development team to carry out its functions as described under sec. 19, ch. 14, SLA 2009; "requiring expedited review and action by state agencies or entities relating to the in-state natural gas pipeline project."

Further, this bill will amend the original legislation to reflect certain changes to the Joint In-State Gasline Development team, which includes allowing for a chair's designee of the Alaska Railroad Corporation and removing the chief executive officer of the Alaska Natural Gas Development Authority.