



January 31, 2011

Alaska, SAF
C/o Maynard Nuss
Executive Secretary
521 High View Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99515-3716

Governor Parnell
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Parnell,

The Alaska Society of American Foresters (SAF) is Alaska's organization of professional foresters and other natural resource scientists dedicated to the sustainable management and protection of Alaska's forests and related resources.

The Alaska Society of American Foresters and Southeast state chapters have reviewed the HB 105 and corresponding Senate Bill 44 – which will add an additional 23,181 acres of State lands to the 25,291 acre existing Southeast State Forest established last year. This expanded Southeast State Forest of 48,474 acres will be managed by the Department of Natural Resource' Division of Forestry, which has an exemplary record of managing Alaska's forests and related resources.

The Alaska SAF commends the Governor Parnell and the Alaska Legislature for the establishment of a SE Alaska State Forest.

The Alaska Society of American Foresters is please to support HB 105. Enactment of HB 105 will enable the Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry to sustainably manage the timber, fisheries, wildlife, waters, recreation, and other multiple benefits that will strengthen the local economy, provide jobs, and improve quality of life of all Southeast Alaska communities.

Sincerely,

Kathryn S. Pyne,
Alaska SAF, Chair

Cc: Southeast Legislature Delegation; Alaska Congressional Delegation, State Forester Chris Maisch, Southeast Conference, USFS Regional Forester Beth Pendleton, and National SAF.