



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**

GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of Natural Resources**

Office of the Commissioner

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February 27, 2013

The Honorable Eric Feige, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Dan Saddler, Co-Chair  
House Resources Committee  
State Capitol Rooms 126 and 104  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Feige and Representative Saddler:

The Department of Natural Resources respectfully requests a hearing in the House Resources Committee on HB 129, "An Act relating to approval for oil and gas or gas only exploration and development in a geographical area; and providing for an effective date."

The purpose of this legislation is to clarify that oil and gas exploration and development approvals can be made for all or part of an oil and gas lease sale area, without regard to lease boundaries. This statutory change will help the Division of Oil and Gas do its business more efficiently and should enable the public to be better served by incorporating their participation earlier in the process for approving oil and gas exploration and development.

A copy of Governor Parnell's transmittal letter, the bill, a briefing paper, sectional analysis, and fiscal note accompany this request.

Your favorable consideration of this request is appreciated. If you need any additional information, please contact Esther Tempel, Legislative Liaison for the Department of Natural Resources at 907-465-4730 or Robert Pawlowski, Legislative & Policy Advisor for the Division of Oil and Gas at 907-269-8802.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel S. Sullivan".

Daniel S. Sullivan  
Commissioner

Cc: Heather Brakes, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor