



ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

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April 2, 2019

To: Members of the Alaska State Legislature

From: Jeff Tucker, Immediate Past President Alaska Fire Chiefs Association

Reference: Alaska State Legislative bill (HB 27) "Toxic-Free Firefighter and Children act"

The Alaska Fire Chiefs have been working with our State Legislators over the past few years and Representative Tarr most recently to pass legislation to ban ineffective and harmful flame retardant chemicals. We whole heartily write in support of this bill.

The Alaska fire service tragically can point to two recent firefighter deaths that can be linked back to the work they did as firefighters. Battalion Chief Phil Rounds, University Fire Department, and Firefighter Andy Mullen, Anchorage Fire Department, both contracted cancer from being exposed to carcinogens while performing their firefighter duties.

The bill you are considering will go a long way to reduce the chemicals that firefighters and the civilian population is exposed to and would prevent the manufacture, sale, and distribution of children's products and furniture that contain harmful flame retardant chemicals including organohalogen, organophosphorus, organonitrogen, and nanoscale flame retardants.

On behalf of the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association, we thank you for putting forward this legislation and urge you to be proactive and prevent exposure to these toxic chemicals by passing HB 27.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jeff Tucker", written in a cursive style.

Jeff Tucker, Immediate Past President

Alaska Fire Chiefs Association