

# ALASKA STATE HOUSE



***Session:***

State Capitol Building,  
Room 418  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 465-4527

***Interim:***

P.O. Box 658  
Tok, AK 99780  
Phone: (907) 883-4527

## REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CRONK

### SPONSOR STATEMENT

#### HOUSE BILL- 104

House Bill- 104 is written to accomplish five main goals:

1. To increase public safety by reducing wildfire risks.
2. Provide timber resources in abundance for industry growth.
3. Reduce firefighting costs to the state.
4. Provide fuel for biomass energy production and expansion.
5. Increase local job opportunities.

Alaska's timber resources are plentiful and sorely underutilized. In the Interior when a tree is harvested it is one less tree for mother nature to burn. When insect infestation occurs, timber dies by the millions of board feet. Even so much of this dying or dead timber is usable. We must aggressively make this fire ready, and beetle killed timber available before it deteriorates.

This legislation directs our State Forester and the Division to focus on areas of commercial timber where fire dangers are high as well as areas under insect infestation as a priority.

HB – 104 has the support of: Governor Dunleavy, Commissioner of Natural Resources, Alaska Forestry Association, and other Industry users.

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 104(RES) am**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Amended: 4/19/23**

**Offered: 4/17/23**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES CRONK, Rauscher, McCabe, McKay, Sumner, Tomaszewski, C.Johnson, Carpenter, Vance, D.Johnson, Ruffridge**

**SENATOR Bjorkman**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act relating to salvage sales of timber, negotiated timber sales for local**  
2   **manufacture of wood products, and expedited timber sales; and providing for an**  
3   **effective date."**

4   **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5       **\* Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
6   to read:

7           LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to reduce the risk and cost of  
8   fires, minimize the loss of harvestable timber caused by fire, insect infestation, and disease  
9   epidemics, and support an increase in local wood product producers and facilities.

10       **\* Sec. 2.** AS 38.05.035(e) is amended to read:

11           (e) Upon a written finding that the interests of the state will be best served, the  
12       director may, with the consent of the commissioner, approve contracts for the sale,  
13       lease, or other disposal of available land, resources, property, or interests in them. In  
14       approving a contract under this subsection, the director need only prepare a single

1 written finding. In addition to the conditions and limitations imposed by law, the  
 2 director may impose additional conditions or limitations in the contracts as the director  
 3 determines, with the consent of the commissioner, will best serve the interests of the  
 4 state. The preparation and issuance of the written finding by the director are subject to  
 5 the following:

6 (1) with the consent of the commissioner and subject to the director's  
 7 discretion, for a specific proposed disposal of available land, resources, or property, or  
 8 of an interest in them, the director, in the written finding,

9 (A) shall establish the scope of the administrative review on  
 10 which the director's determination is based, and the scope of the written  
 11 finding supporting that determination; the scope of the administrative review  
 12 and finding may address only reasonably foreseeable, significant effects of the  
 13 uses proposed to be authorized by the disposal;

14 (B) may limit the scope of an administrative review and finding  
 15 for a proposed disposal to

16 (i) applicable statutes and regulations;

17 (ii) the facts pertaining to the land, resources, or  
 18 property, or interest in them, that the director finds are material to the  
 19 determination and that are known to the director or knowledge of which  
 20 is made available to the director during the administrative review; and

21 (iii) issues that, based on the statutes and regulations  
 22 referred to in (i) of this subparagraph, on the facts as described in (ii) of  
 23 this subparagraph, and on the nature of the uses sought to be authorized  
 24 by the disposal, the director finds are material to the determination of  
 25 whether the proposed disposal will best serve the interests of the state;  
 26 and

27 (C) may, if the project for which the proposed disposal is  
 28 sought is a multiphased development, limit the scope of an administrative  
 29 review and finding for the proposed disposal to the applicable statutes and  
 30 regulations, facts, and issues identified in (B)(i) - (iii) of this paragraph that  
 31 pertain solely to the disposal phase of the project when

(i) the only uses to be authorized by the proposed disposal are part of that phase;

(ii) the disposal is a disposal of oil and gas, or of gas only, and, before the next phase of the project may proceed, public notice and the opportunity to comment are provided under regulations adopted by the department;

(iii) the department's approval is required before the next phase of the project may proceed; and

(iv) the department describes its reasons for a decision to phase;

(2) the director shall discuss in the written finding prepared and issued under this subsection the reasons that each of the following was not material to the director's determination that the interests of the state will be best served:

(A) facts pertaining to the land, resources, or property, or an interest in them other than those that the director finds material under (1)(B)(ii) of this subsection; and

(B) issues based on the statutes and regulations referred to in (1)(B)(i) of this subsection and on the facts described in (1)(B)(ii) of this subsection;

(3) a written finding for an oil and gas lease sale or gas only lease sale under AS 38.05.180 is subject to (g) of this section;

(4) a contract for the sale, lease, or other disposal of available land or an interest in land is not legally binding on the state until the commissioner approves the contract, but if the appraised value is not greater than \$50,000 in the case of the sale of land or an interest in land, or \$5,000 in the case of the annual rental of land or interest in land, the director may execute the contract without the approval of the commissioner;

(5) public notice requirements relating to the sale, lease, or other disposal of available land or an interest in land for oil and gas, or for gas only, proposed to be scheduled in the five-year oil and gas leasing program under AS 38.05.180(b), except for a sale under (6)(F) of this subsection, are as follows:

(A) before a public hearing, if held, or in any case not less than 180 days before the sale, lease, or other disposal of available land or an interest in land, the director shall make available to the public a preliminary written finding that states the scope of the review established under (1)(A) of this subsection and includes the applicable statutes and regulations, the material facts and issues in accordance with (1)(B) of this subsection, and information required by (g) of this section, upon which the determination that the sale, lease, or other disposal will serve the best interests of the state will be based; the director shall provide opportunity for public comment on the preliminary written finding for a period of not less than 60 days;

(B) after the public comment period for the preliminary written finding and not less than 90 days before the sale, lease, or other disposal of available land or an interest in land for oil and gas or for gas only, the director shall make available to the public a final written finding that states the scope of the review established under (1)(A) of this subsection and includes the applicable statutes and regulations, the material facts and issues in accordance with (1) of this subsection, and information required by (g) of this section, upon which the determination that the sale, lease, or other disposal will serve the best interests of the state is based;

(6) before a public hearing, if held, or in any case not less than 21 days before the sale, lease, or other disposal of available land, property, resources, or interests in them other than a sale, lease, or other disposal of available land or an interest in land for oil and gas or for gas only under (5) of this subsection, the director shall make available to the public a written finding that, in accordance with (1) of this subsection, sets out the material facts and applicable statutes and regulations and any other information required by statute or regulation to be considered upon which the determination that the sale, lease, or other disposal will best serve the interests of the state was based; however, a written finding is not required before the approval of

(A) a contract for a negotiated timber sale authorized under AS 38.05.115 or a salvage timber sale authorized under AS 38.05.117;

(B) a lease of land for a shore fishery site under AS 38.05.082;

1 (C) a permit or other authorization revocable by the  
2 commissioner;

3 (D) a mineral claim located under AS 38.05.195;

4 (E) a mineral lease issued under AS 38.05.205;

5 (F) an exempt oil and gas lease sale or gas only lease sale under  
6 AS 38.05.180(d) of acreage subject to a best interest finding issued within the  
7 previous 10 years or a reoffer oil and gas lease sale or gas only lease sale under  
8 AS 38.05.180(w) of acreage subject to a best interest finding issued within the  
9 previous 10 years, unless the commissioner determines that substantial new  
10 information has become available that justifies a supplement to the most recent  
11 best interest finding for the exempt oil and gas lease sale or gas only lease sale  
12 acreage and for the reoffer oil and gas lease sale or gas only lease sale acreage;  
13 however, for each oil and gas lease sale or gas only lease sale described in this  
14 subparagraph, the director shall call for comments from the public; the  
15 director's call for public comments must provide opportunity for public  
16 comment for a period of not less than 30 days; if the director determines that a  
17 supplement to the most recent best interest finding for the acreage is required  
18 under this subparagraph,

19 (i) the director shall issue the supplement to the best  
20 interest finding not later than 90 days before the sale;

21 (ii) not later than 45 days before the sale, the director  
22 shall issue a notice describing the interests to be offered, the location  
23 and time of the sale, and the terms and conditions of the sale; and

24 (iii) the supplement has the status of a final written best  
25 interest finding for purposes of (i) and (l) of this section;

26 (G) a surface use lease under AS 38.05.255;

27 (H) a permit, right-of-way, or easement under AS 38.05.850;

28 (7) the director shall include in

29 (A) a preliminary written finding, if required, a summary of  
30 agency and public comments, if any, obtained as a result of contacts with other  
31 agencies concerning a proposed disposal or as a result of informal efforts

undertaken by the department to solicit public response to a proposed disposal, and the department's preliminary responses to those comments; and

(B) the final written finding a summary of agency and public comments received and the department's responses to those comments.

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 38.05.110(c) is amended to read:

(c) If a sale of timber may be offered under multiple provisions of AS 38.05.110 - 38.05.124 [AS 38.05.110 - 38.05.123], the commissioner shall determine the applicable provisions under which to offer the timber.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 38.05.112(a) is amended to read:

(a) The department may not authorize the harvest of timber, except for harvests of 10 acres or less, salvage sales under AS 38.05.117, or expedited timber sales under AS 38.05.124 [OR TIMBER SALVAGED FROM LAND CLEARED FOR A NONFOREST USE], until a site-specific forest land use plan has been adopted. A forest land use plan is required whether or not a regional or area land use plan under AS 38.04.065(a) or a forest management plan under AS 41.17.230 has been adopted. The requirements of AS 38.04.065(b) shall apply to a land use plan adopted under this section only if a regional or area land use plan under AS 38.04.065(a) or a forest management plan under AS 41.17.230 has not been adopted.

\* **Sec. 5.** AS 38.05.113(c) is amended to read:

(c) Sales of 160 acres or less, salvage sales under AS 38.05.117, and expedited timber sales under AS 38.05.124 [EMERGENCY SALES] are exempt from the requirements of this section.

\* **Sec. 6.** AS 38.05.115 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(d) The period of a contract for a sale of timber subject to a forest land use plan under AS 38.05.112 is 25 years unless the purchaser requests a shorter term or the commissioner makes a written finding that a shorter term is in the best interest of the state. A contract under this section must provide that stumpage rates be redetermined by negotiation at least once every five years during the term of the contract to reflect changes in market conditions. The redetermined rates may not be less than the base price for the area as established under regulations adopted by the commissioner.

\* **Sec. 7.** AS 38.05.117 is amended to read:

1       **Sec. 38.05.117. Salvage sales.** Notwithstanding **AS 38.05.035(e) and** the provisions  
 2       of AS 38.05.113, the commissioner **may, without** [, AFTER] making a written  
 3       finding that the disposal will serve the best interests of the state, [MAY] offer for  
 4       salvage sale timber [STANDS] that **has lost substantial economic value or** will lose  
 5       substantial economic value [BECAUSE OF INSECT OR DISEASE EPIDEMICS OR  
 6       FIRE,] if not salvaged within two years. **The commissioner shall determine the**  
 7       **timber to be sold and the limitations, conditions, and terms of sale. The**  
 8       **limitations, conditions, and terms must include the utilization, development, and**  
 9       **maintenance of the sustained yield principle, subject to preference among other**  
 10       **beneficial uses. The commissioner**

11               **(1) may not negotiate sales of timber without notice; and**

12               **(2) shall negotiate sales of timber under the limitations, conditions, and**  
 13       **terms that are considered to be in the best interests of the state** [TIMBER ON  
 14       LAND TO BE CLEARED FOR CONVERSION TO NONFOREST USES ALSO  
 15       MAY BE OFFERED AS A SALVAGE SALE].

16       \* **Sec. 8.** AS 38.05.117 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

17               (b) A sale under this section is limited to timber that has been

18                       (1) killed by fire, insect, disease, or an act of nature;

19                       (2) removed for conversion of land to a nonforest use; or

20                       (3) cleared as part of a fire prevention or suppression activity.

21       \* **Sec. 9.** AS 38.05.123(a) is amended to read:

22               (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of AS 38.05.115 and 38.05.120, and upon  
 23       a finding that the sale is in the best interest of the state, the commissioner may  
 24       negotiate a sale of timber for use in the local manufacture of high value-added wood  
 25       products. A timber sale contract entered into under this section may provide for a  
 26       harvest of up to 10,000,000 board feet of timber each year, consistent with sustained  
 27       yield principles, and may **not be for a term of less than seven years, unless a**  
 28       **shorter term is requested by the purchaser. A contract may** be for a term of up to  
 29       **25** [10] years. Initial stumpage rates for a contract under this section shall be  
 30       determined by negotiation but may not be less than the base price for the area as  
 31       established under regulations adopted by the commissioner. A contract under this



1 section must provide that stumpage rates shall be redetermined by negotiation at least  
 2 once every three years during the term of the contract, to reflect changes in market  
 3 conditions. The [; THE] redetermined rates may not be less than the base price for the  
 4 area as established under regulations adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner  
 5 shall endeavor to negotiate at least two contracts under this section in each [BY  
 6 REGULATION SET A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTRACTS, BUT NOT LESS  
 7 THAN TWO, PER] region of the state [THAT MAY BE NEGOTIATED EACH  
 8 YEAR UNDER THIS SECTION].

9 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 38.05 is amended by adding a new section to article 4 to read:

10 **Sec. 38.05.124. Expedited timber sales.** (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
 11 AS 38.05.112 - 38.05.117 and 38.05.120, upon finding that a sale is in the best interest  
 12 of the state, the commissioner may expedite the sale of timber in areas subject to high  
 13 annual fire danger or insect or disease epidemics.

14 (b) A timber sale contract entered into under this section must provide for a  
 15 harvest in an amount to be determined by the commissioner. If the commissioner  
 16 determines under AS 38.05.035(e) and this section that a sale of timber is likely to  
 17 offset the department's future management costs in preventing or suppressing fire or  
 18 mitigating the spread of harmful insects and disease, by an equal or greater amount,  
 19 the commissioner may negotiate a sale of timber under this section at the base price  
 20 for the area.

21 (c) In making the best interest finding required by AS 38.05.035(e) and (a) of  
 22 this section, before offering an expedited timber sale, the commissioner shall find that  
 23 the timber has been burned by fire, infected by insects or disease, or is in an area  
 24 threatened by fire, insect, or disease and, as a result, the timber

- 25 (1) creates, or will create, a public safety issue;
- 26 (2) causes or may cause the destruction of habitat or a decrease in
- 27 wildlife populations;
- 28 (3) affects, or may affect, soil stability; or
- 29 (4) eliminates, or may eliminate, other commercially viable or better
- 30 uses for the timber, such as the likelihood of commercial success of locally
- 31 manufactured high value-added wood products.

1 (d) The commissioner

2 (1) is not required to notice an expedited timber sale under this section  
3 in a timber sale schedule under AS 38.05.113; and

4 (2) may not reduce the sale of other more commercially viable timber  
5 under another provision of AS 38.05.110 - 38.05.124 solely because of a sale of  
6 timber under this section.

7 (e) In this section, "expedited timber sale" means a sale that shortens the time  
8 frame for each step of the timber sale process and concentrates personnel actions to  
9 maximize the amount of qualifying burnt, infected, diseased, or threatened timber  
10 available for harvest.

11 \* **Sec. 11.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

# CSHB-104 (RES)

## Expedited Timber Sales Sectional Analysis Section

**Section 1.** Legislative Purpose

**Section 2.** Removes written finding requirement for salvage timber sale.

**Section 3.** Expands reference span to include new section AS 38.05.124.

**Section 4.** Places salvage and expedited sales under same forest land use plan exemption as sales of less than 10 acres.

**Section 5.** Allows Salvage and Expedited timber sales to include timber that was not in the five year schedule.

**Section 6.** Sets a 25- year time frame for sales subject to a forest use plan unless the purchaser requests a shorter time frame, or the commissioner makes a written finding that a shorter term is in the best interest of the state. Stumpage rates to be renegotiated every five years to reflect changes in market conditions.

**Section 7.** Amends the salvage sale statutes for clarity between salvage and expedited sales.

**Section 8.** Establishes the criteria the commissioner is to use to qualify sales as salvage.

**Section 9.** Sets a minimum term for high value negotiated sales of 7 years, unless purchaser requests less, with an upper limit set at 25 years. Urges commissioner to negotiate at least two contracts per year under this section.

**Section 10.** Lays out the criteria the commissioner must consider as expedited sales are to be considered. Defines “Expedited timber sale”.

**Section 11.** Immediate Effective date

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2023 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 104  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: HB104-DNR-DOF-03-17-23  
Title: EXPEDITED TIMBER SALES  
Sponsor: CRONK  
Requester: (H)RES

Department: Department of Natural Resources  
Appropriation: Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources  
Allocation: Forest Management & Development  
OMB Component Number: 435

## Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2024 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2024 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2024	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

## Change in Revenues

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2023) cost:** 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2024) cost:** 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

**Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account?** No  
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

## ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 06/01/24

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Initial Version

Prepared By: Helge Eng, Director  
Division: Division of Forestry & Fire Protection  
Approved By: Theresa Cross, Administrative Services Director  
Agency: Natural Resources  
Phone: (907)269-8474  
Date: 03/17/2023  
Date: 03/17/23

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 104

### Analysis

This bill introduces a new category of timber sales called expedited timber sales, for state forest land with high annual fire danger or subject to insect or disease outbreaks.

This bill attempts to make dead and dying timber available for value-added processing before it decomposes and becomes unmerchantable, and fast-track the state's process of developing and offering timber sales on state lands in areas subject to high risk of wildfire and insect and disease infestations.

The Division of Forestry and Fire Protection does not anticipate a fiscal impact.

## **1<sup>st</sup> - Statute and Regulations:**

AS 38.05.035(e) explains the requirement for a Best Interest Finding (BIF)

AS 38.05.112 explains the requirement for a Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP)

AAC 11.02 – regulation regarding “Appeals”

AAC 11.71 – regulation on Timber Sales Procedures

### **What HB 104 does as far as timeframes:**

AS 38.05.113 - Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales (FYSTS) – FYSTS are done every 2 years and a sale must be included in 1 of the last 2 FYSTS. Timber sales sold under 117 or 124 do not have to be included in an FYSTS. Time savings up to 2 years.

AS 38.05.035 - Best Interest Finding – a Draft BIF is issued w/ usually a 30 day comment period. A Final BIF is then issued with a 20 day appeal period. Timber sold under 117 do not require a BIF. Time savings at least 50 days. If an appeal is filed, Commissioner has 30 days to deny the appeal. Party that files an appeal has the option to file in court after the Commissioner denies the appeal.

AS 38.05.112 – Forest Land Use Plan - a Draft FLUP is issued w/ usually a 30 day comment period. A Final FLUP is then issued with a 20 day appeal period. Timber sold under 117 and 124 do not require a FLUP. Time savings at least 50 days. If an appeal is filed, Commissioner has 30 days to deny the appeal. Party that files an appeal has the option to file in court after the Commissioner denies the appeal.

### **What HB 104 does not do as far as timeframes:**

The bill does not place a limit on the actual amount of time that the DOF can take to develop and offer a timber sale.

A 117 timber sale carries an applied total timeframe of no more than 2 years based on the statement, “if not salvaged within two years”.

An “expedited timber sale” under 124 is supposed to “shorten the time frame” to produce the sale which I take to mean make the sale a priority. Here in southern southeast, the DOF has taken as much as 4 years between issuing a final BIF and offering the timber for sale. Timeframes between issuing a Draft BIF and a Final BIF have been as long as 6 months. The current FYST comment period ended almost 60 days ago and a Final FYSTS has not been issued yet.

### **Total Time Saved by HB 104:**

117 Timber Sale – at least 100 days up to 2 years and 100 days

124 timber Sale – at least 50 days up to 2 years and 50 days

Founded 1975

**Executive Director**  
Leila Kimbrell



# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Growing Alaska Through Responsible Resource Development

April 18, 2023

*Submitted electronically to:*

[Representative.Mike.Cronk@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Mike.Cronk@akleg.gov); [Representative.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov);  
[Representative.Kevin.McCabe@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Kevin.McCabe@akleg.gov); [Representative.Tom.McKay@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Tom.McKay@akleg.gov);  
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State of Alaska Legislature  
House of Representatives  
Juneau, Alaska

Re: Support for HB 104, an act relating to expedited timber sales

Dear Representatives Cronk, Rauscher, McCabe, McKay, Sumner, and Tomaszewski:

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc. (RDC) writes in support of HB 104, an act relating to expedited timber sales. RDC is a statewide trade association comprised of individuals and companies from Alaska's fishing, tourism, forestry, mining, and oil and gas industries. RDC's membership also includes Alaska Native corporations, local communities, organized labor, and industry support firms. Since 1975, RDC's purpose has been to encourage a strong, diversified private sector in Alaska and expand the state's economic base through our mission of growing Alaska through responsible resource development.

This bill represents a long overdue and practical approach to addressing very serious forest management, wildfire and infestation problems plaguing our state forests. Establishing an expedited sale process to allow for the responsible harvest and management of forest areas that present immediate wildfire danger, or, as we have seen with respect to the spruce bark beetle infestation through much of southcentral Alaska is a win-win for all. Not only does it allow the State to more nimbly mitigate the risk of danger presented by these threats, but it can further support and benefit a statewide timber industry and the manufacture of additional and new state forest products.

For these reasons, RDC supports passage of HB 104. Please feel free to share our position with your colleagues as this bill progresses. Thank you for your leadership on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Leila Kimbrell  
Executive Director

**2022-2023  
Executive Committee**

Lori Nelson, President  
Mike Satre, Sr. Vice President  
Lance Miller, Vice President  
Scott Habberstad, Secretary  
Anna Atchison, Treasurer  
Joe Balash  
Jason Crique  
Eric Fjelstad  
Tim Gallagher  
Dave Karp  
Wendy Lindscoog  
Thomas Mack  
Tom Maloney  
Sam Mazzeo  
Kara Moriarty  
Hans Neidig  
Christy Resler  
Ralph Samuels  
Aaron Schutt  
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Loralie Simon  
Casey Sullivan  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew Traxler <[ibmillinginalaska@gmail.com](mailto:ibmillinginalaska@gmail.com)>

Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:45 PM

To: Noah Hanson <[Noah.Hanson@akleg.gov](mailto:Noah.Hanson@akleg.gov)>

Subject: Note to Alaska Senate Majority

My name is Andrew Traxler, I own the Sawmill Business Papoose Milling. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions you have about House Bill 104. My cell phone number 1-907-315-5138

We have the potential to have a vibrant local lumber industry. I make a fair living running my sawmill business. Presently I'm producing 25 new homes this summer. I produced 30 last year. I'm booked up for this year. I turn work away every day. The limiting factor is log availability. I do not want any more logs than I get now. I want other sawmill businesses to exist like me with log access. I've seen many businesses close due to lack of timber access. There is 1,200 Woodmizer sawmills presently in the state of Alaska. There is currently five commercial grade Woodmizer sawmills like mine in Alaska. Only a few have access to logs to mill. Can you please pass house bill 104 so that we can produce for Alaskans.

Andrew Traxler  
Papoose Milling

Sent from my iPhone