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Referred: Community & Regional  
Affairs and Finance

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1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 442

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to state aid for volunteer fire

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departments; and providing for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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\* Section 1. AS 29.89.040 is amended to read:

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Sec. 29.89.040. STATE AID FOR [TO] VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

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[IN THE UNORGANIZED BOROUGH]. (a) The department shall pay to a

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municipality for each volunteer fire department that is not a non-

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profit corporation but is registered with the state fire marshal and

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serving an area in the municipality, to each volunteer fire department

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registered with the state fire marshal that is a nonprofit corpora-

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tion, and to each volunteer fire department registered with the state

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fire marshal and serving an area not in an organized borough or city a

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sum for protection purposes equal to

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(1) \$20 [\$10] per capita for the population served by the

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volunteer fire department, as determined by the state fire marshal;

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and

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(2) \$5,000 for each operating fire and rescue station of

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the volunteer fire department.

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(b) A grant shall be made under (a) of this section to facili-

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tate the organization of a volunteer fire department [IN AN AREA NOT

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IN AN ORGANIZED BOROUGH OR CITY], upon application of the proposed

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fire protection group to the state fire marshal and upon approval of

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applications according to standards of organization and service pre-

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scribed by regulations adopted by the state fire marshal.

1 \* Sec. 2. AS 29.89.040 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

2 (c) A volunteer fire department or proposed fire protection  
3 group that qualifies for a grant under (a) or (b) of this section may  
4 apply to the department for a supplementary grant. Upon receipt of an  
5 application the state fire marshal shall consider the request for a  
6 supplementary grant and may approve the grant in the amount determined  
7 by the state fire marshal to be necessary for protection purposes. In  
8 determining whether to approve a supplementary grant under this sub-  
9 section, the state fire marshal shall consider criteria relevant to  
10 the applicant, including

11 (1) the level of volunteer staffing of fire and rescue  
12 stations and the number of volunteer hours donated;

13 (2) services provided in addition to fire protection;

14 (3) the type and condition of equipment in use;

15 (4) the number of emergency responses made during the prior  
16 year;

17 (5) the fire loss history of the area;

18 (6) the level of local support available in relation to the  
19 assessed value of property in the area;

20 (7) population of the area;

21 (8) the number of households, businesses, and major facili-  
22 ties in the area;

23 (9) the effect of an additional grant on the Insurance  
24 Service Organization rating of the area;

25 (10) the effect of an additional grant on operating costs;

26 (11) the potential for providing protection to additional  
27 areas and facilities;

28 (12) efforts being made to educate the public regarding fire  
29 safety;

1           (13) the extent to which the provision of other services in  
2 the area has been coordinated, including emergency medical services,  
3 search and rescue services, and ambulance services;

4           (14) if the applicant is serving an area not in a municipal-  
5 ity and is not a nonprofit corporation, its fiscal responsibility and  
6 capacity to deliver fire and rescue services.

7           (d) After a grant is approved by the state fire marshal under  
8 (c) of this section, the department shall pay the amount determined by  
9 the state fire marshal to be necessary for protection purposes to

10           (1) a municipality for an applicant that is not a nonprofit  
11 corporation and is serving an area in the municipality;

12           (2) an applicant that is a nonprofit corporation;

13           (3) an applicant serving an area not in an organized bor-  
14 ough or city.

15 \* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1984.