

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## HOUSE

(11)

FURTHER:

2/11/82

Date:

3/9/82

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on FINANCE has had HB 756

"An Act relating to the amount of money available for fire suppression; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and (~~a majority of the committee~~) (~~the committee~~) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass  do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for 756 (FIN)  same title  
 new title
- and recommends do pass
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent"  New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING  
DO PASS**

[Signature]  
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[Signature]  
[Signature]  
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**MEMBERS HAVING  
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]

[Signature]  
CHAIRMAN

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 756 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the fire suppression fund; and  
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 41.15.210 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 41.15.210. FIRE SUPPRESSION FUND. A fire suppression fund is  
11 established in the state treasury for the use of the Department of  
12 Natural Resources. The fund shall be used for actual expenses incurred  
13 in the suppression of fires. The fund may not be used for capital ex-  
14 penditures related to the suppression of fires.

15 \* Sec. 2. Section 2, ch. 171, SLA 1980, is amended to read:

16 Sec. 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of AS 37.07.080(e) or the  
17 provisions of AS 37.05.159(b), the governor may transfer up to  
18 \$10,000,000 [\$5,000,000] during a fiscal year from the reserve for  
19 emergency operating expenses account to the fire suppression fund to pay  
20 the costs of fire suppression.

\* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10-  
22 070(c).

23

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Introduced: 2/11/82  
Referred: Finance

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY  
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 756

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

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17  
18 NEW SECT 2

19 <sup>210</sup>  
20 41.15.230 DISBURSEMENT. Upon authorization of the  
21 governor, disbursements from the fire suppression fund  
22 shall be paid by the proper state officer on  
23 presentation of vouchers signed by the governor or  
24 his authorized representative. No disbursements  
25 may be made for capital expenditures.  
26  
27  
28  
29

# STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### DIVISION OF FORESTRY

Pouch 7-005  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
PHONE: (907) 276-2653

March 1, 1982

re HB 756

Representative Robert H. Bettisworth  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Bob:

At our hearing on HB576 you asked for a 5 year history of fire expenditures by the State. Because of a change in accounting techniques these numbers are not readily available prior to 1979. The figures for the past 3 years follow.

#### HISTORY OF FIRE EXPENDITURES FOR STATE OF ALASKA<sup>1</sup>

acreage  
burned  
224,300  
58,400  
42,900

	<u>State Protected</u>		<u>State Lands Protected by Federal Government</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Suppression</u>	<u>Presuppression</u>	<u>Suppression</u>	<u>Presuppression</u>	
1981	8,121.9	3,198.1	365.4	624.9	12,310.3
1980	2,702.5	2,882.8	94.3	59.7	5,739.3
1979	3,537.9	2,500.0 <sup>2</sup>	799.3	-0-	6,837.2

<sup>1</sup> Costs in thousands of dollars.

<sup>2</sup> Estimate only, fire costs not separated in operating budget.

3 12496.8  
8,170.0

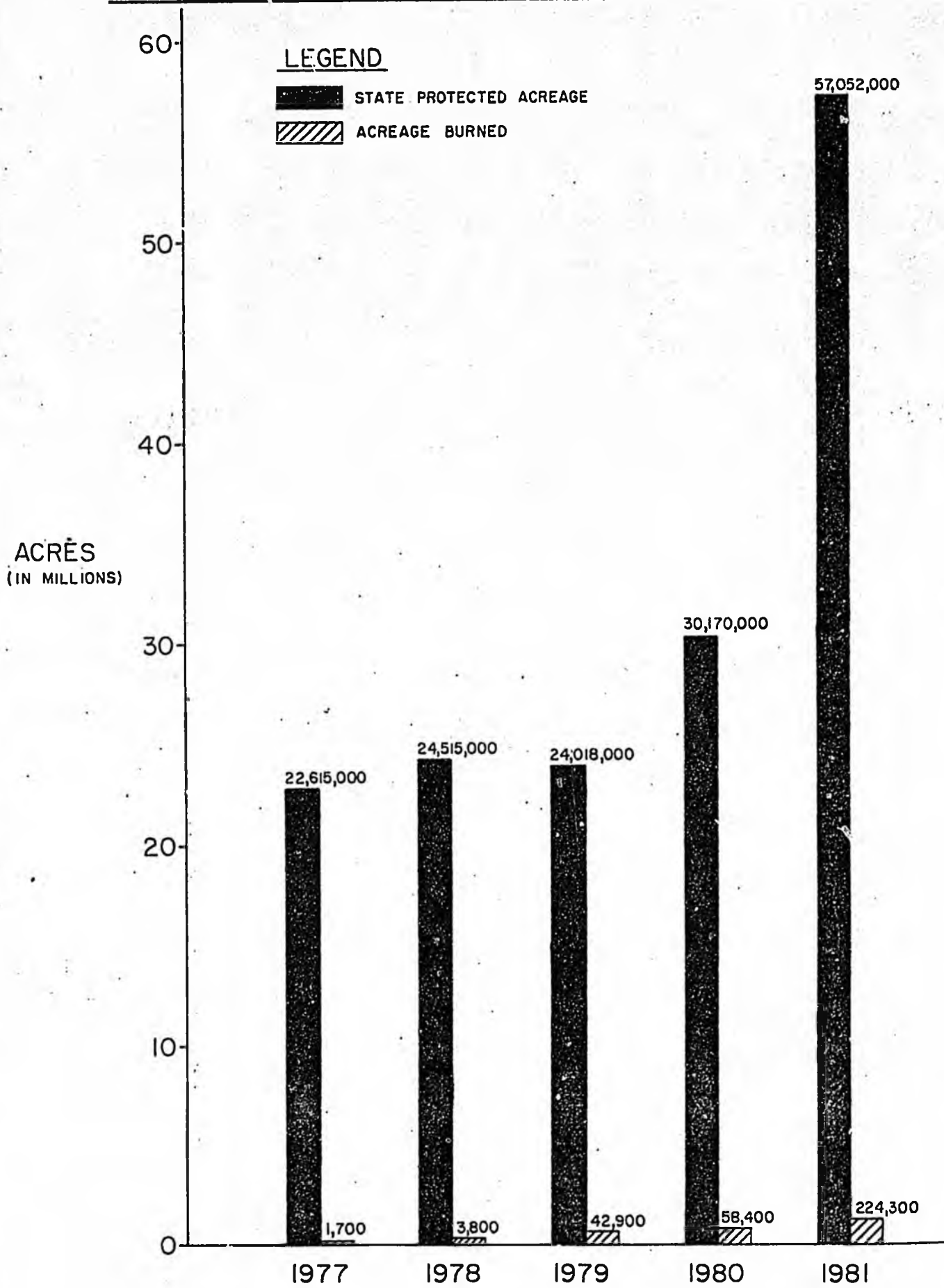
If you need figures for years prior to 1979 please let me know and we will develop them.

Sincerely,

Theodore G. Smith  
Director

File - Fire

# STATE PROTECTED ACREAGE VS. ACRES BURNED





14B 756

STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

February 11, 1982

The Honorable Joe L. Hayes  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill raising from five million to ten million dollars the ceiling on the amount of money that I may transfer from the reserve for emergency operating expenses account to the fire suppression fund.

The state does not presently have the full capacity to provide logistical support for a fire organization of the magnitude expected to be necessary by 1985. The land protected by the state, now and in the near future, is that which is of highest value and population density. In the event of a major wildfire (at a cost of over \$200,000 a day to fight), the current five million dollar limit would be exhausted in a matter of weeks, leaving the state critically vulnerable during a very dry fire season.

Alaska's wildfire prevention responsibility is growing at a very rapid rate because of two major factors: (1) the state is assuming protection responsibility on more state and privately owned land which was formerly protected by the federal Bureau of Land Management under an agreement with the state; and (2) the federal government is conveying land to the state under the statehood general grant selection process at a rate greater than what has been anticipated.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay S. Hammond".

Jay S. Hammond  
Governor

Introduced: 2/11/82  
Referred: Finance

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BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY  
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