

COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

3/22/82

FURTHER: None

Date: 4/22/82

Mr. President:

The Committee on FINANCE has had CSHB 756(Fin) an
fire suppression fund

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 CS HB 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

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Signature]

[Signature]

CHAIRMAN

Colvin
4/22/82

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR 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.

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 \$9,000,000 [\$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.

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

4/22/82

HOUSE BILL 756

(An Act relating to the fire suppression fund; and providing for an effective date)

02/11/82 - Introduced by House Rules Committee by Request of Governor
Referred: House Finance with Governor's transmittal letter

03/10/82 House Finance reported bill out as Committee Substitute with
8 'do pass' and 2 'no rec' (Cuddy, Montgomery)

03/13/82 House adopted Finance committee substitute and adopted
amendment
House failed to advance to third reading this date

03/19/82 Passed House 28-02-10 (Nays: Cotten, Cuddy)
Notice of reconsideration given by Miller

03/22/82 Reconsideration not taken up this date

03/23/82 Received by Senate
Referred: Senate Finance

Summary:

Per the Governor's transmittal letter - "It is critical that the Fire Suppression Fund be rejuvenated prior to the 1982 fire season. The Department of Natural Resources is currently entering the 1982 fire season with a deficit of \$631,748.08." An analysis of the fire statistics for the last three years indicated that the department is in the position of approaching the 1982 fire season nearly \$4.0 million short of their historical needs.

This bill amends a portion of a 1980 appropriation to the Governor's Reserve for Emergency Operating Expenses Account and contained in FCCS SB 375, Ch. 171, SLA 1980. That bill appropriated \$350 million to the Account and allowed for the transfer of up to \$5 million each to the Fire Suppression Fund and to the Disaster Relief Fund. This new bill would increase the amount that could be transferred to the Fire Suppression Fund to \$10 million, effective immediately.

HB 756 - Cont.

Page Two

Summary-cont.

The House Finance Committee added the additional line: The fund may not be used for capital expenditures related to the suppression of fires. The House amended this language by deleting: "related to the suppression of fires".

APR 21 1982

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: The Honorable Don Bennett
Alaska State Legislature

DATE: April 21, 1982

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM:

John W. Katz *JK*
Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Aircraft Policy

It is Department of Natural Resource policy that aircraft services used in fighting wildland fires shall be acquired by lease or rental unless:

1. Federal surplus aircraft are acquired at little or no cost to the State, or
2. Legislation specifically authorizes purchase of aircraft.

Specifically, this means that the Department of Natural Resources will not purchase nor enter into any lease purchase agreement involving CL 215's, PBY's or any other aircraft utilized for water bombing of wildland fires.

Colvin
4/22/82

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

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20 the costs of fire suppression.

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22 070(c).



From The
SENATE
FINANCE COMMITTEE

April 22, 1982

Please prepare a SCS for CS for House
Bill 756 (Finance) am per the attached
draft. This bill is scheduled for
hearing before Senate Finance
tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

Please return the draft to either
Kathy or Diana, Room 506, Capitol
Building.

Questions concerning the legislation
should be directed to Sandy Nushaum (3714)

Thank you,

Kathy
3635

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

Offered: 3/10/82
Referred: Rules

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JAY S. HAMMOND
GOVERNOR



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

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 ALASKA¹

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 ²	799.3	-0-	6,837.2

¹Costs in thousands of dollars.

²Estimate 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

