

S B

262

**COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE**

FURTHER:

4/17/85

Date April 23, 1985

Mr. President

The Committee on State Affairs considered SSSB 262
Amateur Radio Week.

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

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace with/or adopt CS for _____
- new title _____
- same title and recommends _____
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS**

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

**MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

[Signature]

Chairman
[Signature]

Chairman recommendation

Alaska State Legislature

Senator Paul A. Fischer
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State Senate

While in Juneau
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Juneau, Alaska 99811
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Memo

April 22, 1985

To: Senator Mitch Abood, Chairman
Senate State Affairs

From: Senator Paul Fischer *PF*

Subject: Sponsor Substitute for Senate Bill 262

This legislation will mark the observance of amateur radio week in Alaska annually. It will coincide with the nationwide "Field Day" activities that the American Radio Relay League sponsors annually on the fourth Saturday in June. It recognizes the important role that amateur radio has and will continue to play in Alaska.

The primary reason for the introduction of this legislation is to recognize the important role that amateur radio operators, better known as "Hams", have played in Alaska. Amateur radio operators have provided in many cases the only link between Alaska and the world during natural disasters. A notable example of their service to the citizens of Alaska was during the disastrous 1964 Alaska Earthquake; during this catastrophe amateur radio operators provided the first report that Kodiak had survived the earthquake. They also provided for a time the only communications between Alaska and the lower forty-eight states.

During local emergencies such as fires and automotive accidents amateur radio operators will often relay information that is vital to public safety. In emergencies, amateur radio operators often relay the status of victims and messages to their next of kin. On holidays amateurs send free messages for servicemen to their loved ones.

For these reasons, it is important and appropriate that amateur radio operators be recognized annually.