

**SB**

**241**

# Alaska State Legislature

**Committee Chair**  
Community & Regional Affairs

**Committee Vice-Chair**  
Labor & Commerce

**Committee Membership**  
Legislative Council



**District Address:**  
145 Main St. Loop; Suite 226  
Kenai, AK 99611  
(907) 283-2690; fax 283-9267

**Session Address:**  
State Capitol, Room 427  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
(907) 465-2828; fax 465-4779

*Senator John Torgerson*

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### **S.B. 241 -Studded Tires on Sterling Highway**

This legislation corrects an existing discrepancy on the Kenai Peninsula. Specifically, the current statute sets times for allowing studded tires along Alaska's paved highways into two areas; one area is north of 60 North Latitude and the other area is south of 60 North Latitude.

While this division is very clear and simple for the majority of the paved roads within the State, it unfortunately separates the Sterling Highway, a much traveled road in South Central Alaska.

Currently, studded tires are prohibited from May 1 through September 15 from about Ninilchik north to Anchorage. From Ninilchik south to Homer, however, studded tires are prohibited from April 15 through September 30.

Clearly, the driver living in Ninilchik or traveling through Ninilchik faces a problem of when to put studded tires on their vehicle and which direction they can then legally travel after they have put on the studded tires.

While the law enforcement community has been graciously gentle in enforcing this delineation, it reflects poorly on the State of Alaska. The issue was brought to my attention this fall when a news item on a local radio station made fun of the division.

This legislation very simply places the entire Sterling Highway in one area - by prohibiting studded tires from May 1 through September 15.

(JT:maj;SB 241: 1/30/96)

Representing the Communities of: \* Lowell Point \* Seward \* Bear Creek \* Crown Point \* Moose Pass \* Hope \* Cooper Landing \* Sterling \* Soldotna \* Kaslof \* Clam Gulch \* Ninilchik \* Happy Valley \* Starlsky \* Nikolaevsk \* Anchor Point \* Homer \* Kachemak City \* Fritz Creek \* Kachemak Selo \*

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## SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

### SB 241 - STUDED TIRES ON STERLING HIGHWAY

**SECTION 1.** Amends current statute 28.35.155(a) by exempting the Sterling Highway from the latitude division line for motor vehicle operation with studded tires or tires which chains.

(JT:maj:SB 241: 1/30/96)

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SECTIONAL ANALYSIS



STATE OF ALASKA  
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
**COMMUNITY/BOROUGH**

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 241

Revision Date: 2/15/96 Dept. Affected: DOT&PF  
 Title: An Act relating to the use of studded tires on the BRU: Central Region  
 Sterling Highway \_\_\_\_\_ Component: Design and Construction  
 Sponsor: Torgerson  
 Requester: Transportation COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 561

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
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>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</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>
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</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>
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<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>

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ 0.0

**POSITIONS**

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Additional costs associated with incorporating the use of studded tires on the Sterling Highway will be in the form of a capital project occurring earlier than originally scheduled. Presently, the area has mixed enforcement. This will help improve enforcement by providing a consistent period that studded tires are banned. In general, studded tire damage is increasing every year. To quantify that cost is difficult and actual increased damage over the present rate of wear will not be significant.

Prepared by: Sam Kito III Phone: 465-3900  
 Special Assistant  
 Division: Office of the Commissioner Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved by: *Joseph L. Puhina* Date: 2/20/96  
 Commissioner  
 Agency: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

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# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO: SB 241**

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Public Safety  
 Title: Studded tires on the Sterling Hwy BRU: Alaska State Troopers  
 Component: Detachments  
 Sponsor: Senator Torgerson  
 Requestor: Senate Transportation **COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0799**

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (inflation not included)**

OPERATING	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

<b>CAPITAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b> Revenue Code	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

Estimate of current year (FY 95) impact: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS:**

<b>FULL-TIME</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>PART-TIME</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TEMPORARY</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

**ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)**

This bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Division of Alaska State Troopers.

Prepared By: Li. Dan Lowden Phone: 465-5505  
 Division: Alaska State Troopers Date: February 12, 1996  
 Approved by Commissioner: *Ronald L. Otte* Date: 2/12/96  
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Department of Public Safety

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*Senator John Torgerson*

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 19, 1996

TO: Rep. Gary Davis, Chair  
House Transportation Committee

FROM: Senator John Torgerson 

RE: Senate Bill 241 - Studded Tires on the Sterling Highway

I respectfully request that you schedule, at your earliest convenience, the referenced bill before the committee.

While this is not an earth-shattering matter, it is one which will affect the residents of House District 7, again, around April 15 of this year. I am hopeful that this bill will resolve the current timing difficulty explained in the Sponsor Statement.

For your information, there was one committee referral in the Senate - Transportation. The Department initially provided a fiscal note which showed a budgetary impact, and so the bill was automatically referred to the Senate Finance Committee. Prior to being heard in Senate Finance, the Department issued a new fiscal note which showed a zero budgetary impact.

Thank you for your time and attention.

(JT:raj, SB 241: 3/19/96)

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: March 19, 1996

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/27/96

The TRANSPORTATION Committee considered:

SB 241

SENATE BILL NO. 241

STUDED TIRES ON STERLING HIGHWAY

"An Act relating to the use of studded tires on the Sterling Highway."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] the same title  
 [ ] a new title

[ ] additional referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee  
 [ ] attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s): (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)

[ ] fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

[X] fiscal note(s) DOT/PE, 3/8/96

[ ] zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Pub. Safety 2/14/96

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<u>Beverly Marek</u>	✓			
<u>[Signature]</u>	X			
<u>[Signature]</u>			X	
<u>[Signature]</u>	✓			
<u>[Signature]</u>	✓			
<u>[Signature]</u>			X	

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE [Signature]