

**SB**

**201**

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**1995 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO. SB201**

Revision Date: Original Dept Affected: Natural Resources  
 Title: An Act relating to the employment of BRU: Resource Development  
emergency fire-fighting personnel by the commissioner of... Component: Forest Management & Development  
 Sponsor: Senator Lincoln  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_ Component Serial No. 435

Expenditures/Revenues	(Thousands of Dollars)					
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE	(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ none

POSITIONS	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
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)

This is a zero cost fiscal note for the operating budget. Funding will be provided by the agency(s) requesting fire management work other than wildland fire suppression. This bill would provide DNR authority to hire EFF crews under AS 41.15.030 for fire management work.

In FY95 the Division received approval through the capital budget to receive and expend up to \$500.0 in federal receipts to supply Emergency Fire Fighting crews to federal agencies on a reimbursable basis. (Reference: SLA94, SB363, Sec 10, Pg 10, Ln 23). This bill provides hiring authority to DNR to utilize EFF for other fire management work under AS 41.15.030. The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service have identified prescribed burning projects which require approximately 300 days of work for trained fire fighting crews. This work cannot be effectively or efficiently conducted without a trained workforce.

Prepared by: Tom Boutin, Director Phone: 465-3379  
 Division: Forestry Date: 31-Jan-96  
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 31-Jan-96  
 Agency: Natural Resources



# Alaska State Legislature

Official Business

State Capitol  
Juneau AK 99801

## MEMO

TO: Nancy Quinto, Senate Secretary

FROM: Annette Kreitzer, Aide to Senate Resources Committee *(AK)*

DATE: March 27, 1996

RE: CS SB 201: Fire Fighting Personnel Employment

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On March 18, 1996, the Resources Committee adopted a blank committee substitute for SB 201. The motion was by Senator Taylor, and no one objected. The work draft adopted was 9-LS1474C by Luckhaupt dated 2/10/96. The committee held the bill over to March 25, when questions about fiscal notes were resolved and the bill was passed from committee.

I neglected to properly fill out the committee report and to turn in the committee substitute adopted by the committee. Attached is the committee substitute adopted and moved by the committee. Please correct the record.

Thanks.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 201(RES)  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATOR LINCOLN

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the employment of emergency fire-fighting personnel by the  
2 commissioner of natural resources."

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

4 \* Section 1. AS 39.25.110(19) is amended to read:

5 (19) emergency fire-fighting personnel [FIRE FIGHTERS] employed  
6 by the Department of Natural Resources for a fire emergency or for fire prevention  
7 and related activities conducted under AS 41.15.030;

8 \* Sec. 2. AS 41.15.030(b) is amended to read:

9 (b) The commissioner may hire emergency fire-fighting personnel, and shall  
10 establish classifications and rates of pay for the emergency fire-fighting personnel  
11 consistent with the compensation paid by other fire-fighting agencies. The  
12 commissioner may adjust the classifications and rates based on findings of the federal  
13 Bureau of Land Management for Alaska. The commissioner may assign emergency  
14 fire-fighting personnel to conduct fire suppression, hazard reduction, fire

1  
2  
3  
4

prevention, habitat restoration or improvement, and other related activities in emergency and nonemergency circumstances. The assignment of emergency fire-fighting personnel to nonemergency activities may not be used to replace permanent or seasonal state employees.

9-LS1474(C) ✓  
Luckhaupt  
2/10/96

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 201( )

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATOR LINCOLN

A BILL

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13 Bureau of Land Management for Alaska. The commissioner may assign emergency  
14 fire-fighting personnel to conduct fire suppression, hazard reduction, fire

1 prevention, habitat restoration or improvement, and other related activities in  
2 emergency and nonemergency circumstances. The assignment of emergency fire-  
3 fighting personnel to nonemergency activities may not be used to replace  
4 permanent or seasonal state employees.

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT  
First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 1/8/96

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 3-12-96  
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 3-25-96

The Resources Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 201

"An Act relating to the employment of emergency fire-fighting personnel by the commissioner of natural resources."

and recommends:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_
- adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- further referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**Senate Bill:**  
 same title  
 new title  
**House Bill:**  
 same title  
 technical title  
 new: SCR# \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING <u>DO</u> PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i>					
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
		<i>Rick Halford</i>	✓		
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓				

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
JWR	9/2/96		150
DPS	3/1/96	✓	2

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):\***

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*Include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. SB201

1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 22-Mar-96 Dept Affected Natural Resources  
 Title: An Act relating to the employment of BRU: TO BE DETERMINED  
emergency fire-fighting personnel by the commissioner of... Component: New - TO BE ESTABLISHED  
 Sponsor: Senator Lincoln  
 Requestor: Senate Resources Component Serial No. TO BE ESTABLISHED

Expenditures/Revenues	(Thousands of Dollars)					
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
PERSONAL SERVICES	250.0	250.0				
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>250.0</b>	<b>250.0</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>
<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>

FUND SOURCE	(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
1061 CIP Receipts **	250.0	250.0				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250.0</b>	<b>250.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ none

POSITIONS	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
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)

This bill provides hiring authority to DNR to utilize EFF for fire suppression, hazard reduction, fire prevention, habitat restoration or improvement and other related activities in emergency and nonemergency circumstances under AS 41.15.030. The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service have identified prescribed burning projects which require approximately 300 days of work for trained fire fighting crews. This work cannot be effectively or efficiently conducted without a trained workforce. Funding will be provided by the agency(s) requesting fire management work other than wildland fire suppression. In FY95 the Division received approval through the capital budget to receive and expend up to \$500.0 in federal receipts to supply Emergency Fire Fighting crews to federal agencies on a reimbursable basis.

\*\*(Reference: SLA94, CH4, Sec 10, Pg 10, Ln 23).

DNR proposes a separate component be set up to account for these contractual activities apart from emergency fire suppression funded through state general funds.

Prepared by: Tom Boutin, Director Phone: 465-3379  
 Division: Forestry Date: 22-Mar-96  
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 22-Mar-96  
 Agency: Natural Resources

**PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE**

# STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

400 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1798  
PHONE: (907) 465-2408  
FAX: (907) 465-2492

March 19, 1996

The Honorable Loren Leman  
Chairman, Senate Resources Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Room 113, Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Leman:

I would like to provide the Senate Resource Committee with some additional details on some of the points of discussion that came up during the Senate Resources Committee hearing on SB201 yesterday.

We discussed why fire suppression money cannot be used for programs other than the actual fighting of wildland fire. AS 41.15.010 requires the Department of Natural Resources to protect State, Private and Municipal land from wildland fire commensurate to the value of the resources at risk. Annual suppression expenses can vary dramatically depending on the severity of a fire season. Actual expenditures have been analyzed over a ten year period (excluding the high and low years) and show that \$9.5 million is the annual state funds expenditure. The legislature funds the fire program at substantially under that amount. The FY96 appropriation for fire suppression was \$3.5 million, which is distinct from the forest management appropriation. By the way of clarification, this is an appropriation out of the General Fund, not the Fire Suppression Fund. Fire suppression funding is used for the fixed costs and actual firefighting on the ground. Use of suppression funding for other programs, such as prescribed burns, would be misappropriation of funds by the agency. DNR has put in place a good system of checks and balances to ensure that only appropriate fire suppression expenditures occur. In addition, both OMB and legislative audit examine the fire suppression component annually.

The idea of a fiscal note which shows the existing federal receipt authority as an expenditure was discussed. We believe that showing this existing spending authority for SB201 would in effect be a double counting of this funding as it already has been appropriated in SLA94, SB363, Sec.10, line23). SB201 enable us to us the village crews for prescribed burns but it does not mandate any funding on its own. We plan to approach the legislature each year with request for these projects when we are made aware of funding from federal or other agencies.

There was discussion of utilizing the authority in SB201 for the expenditure of federal funds only. Limiting the flexibility for this very cost-effective program would put unnecessary

constraints on state agencies such as the Department of Fish & Game who may have appropriated funding for such projects as controlled burns for habitat improvement. Even if SB201 becomes law, emergency firefighters could only be used for projects for which there has been an appropriation. DNR would only use emergency firefighters where there is an appropriation, the use is allowed by law, and it is cost-effective.

Thank you for giving this your attention. Please let me know of any further questions you may have. DNR strongly supports SB201.

Sincerely,



Nico Bus, Acting Director  
Support Services Division

cc: Members of Senate Resource Committee  
Tom Boutin  
Carol Carroll

*Jean*

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. SB201

1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: Original Dept Affected Natural Resources  
 Title: An Act relating to the employment of BRU: Resource Development  
emergency fire-fighting personnel by the commissioner of... Component: Forest Management & Development  
 Sponsor: Senator Lincoln  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_ Component Serial No. 435

Expenditures/Revenues	(Thousands of Dollars)					
	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>						
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE	(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ none

POSITIONS	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
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)

This is a zero cost fiscal note for the operating budget. Funding will be provided by the agency(s) requesting fire management work other than wildland fire suppression. This bill would provide DNR authority to hire EFF crews under AS 41.15.030 for fire management work.

In FY95 the Division received approval through the capital budget to receive and expend up to \$500,000 in federal receipts to supply Emergency Fire Fighting crews to federal agencies on a reimbursable basis. (Reference: SLA94-00363, See 10, Pg 10, Ln 23). This bill provides hiring authority to DNR to utilize EFF for other fire management work under AS 41.15.030. The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service have identified prescribed burning projects which require approximately 300 days of work for trained fire fighting crews. This work cannot be effectively or efficiently conducted without a trained workforce.

Prepared by: Tom Bruhn, Director Phone: 465-3379  
 Division: Forestry Date: 31-Jan-96  
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 31-Jan-96  
 Agency: Natural Resources

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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**ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.**

1577 C Street, Suite 201, Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
907-274-3611 - Fax 907-276-7989

March 18, 1996

The Honorable Georgianna Lincoln  
Alaska State Senate  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2652  
Via Fax Mail: (907)-465-2652  
3 Page Fax. No Hard Copy to follow

RE: SB 201

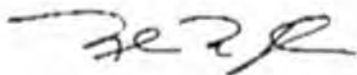
Dear Senator Lincoln:

Please be advised that the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) supports SB 201 as it presently stands. AFN supports and continues to support the mitigation of wildfire hazards as evidenced by the enclosed AFN Convention Resolution 92-96.

This bill will not only authorize the Commissioner of Department of Natural Resources to conduct fire suppression, fire hazard reduction, among others, it will provide employment opportunities for fire fighting crews who reside in rural/busli Alaska where such opportunities are very limited.

If you have any questions concerning this letter or the attached resolution, please call me at AFN.

Sincerely,



Nelson N. Angapak, Sr.  
Special Assistant, Lands

Attachment



## ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.

## 1992 ANNUAL CONVENTION

## RESOLUTION 92 - 96

**TITLE:** WILDLIFE FIRE HAZARD MITIGATION PROPOSAL

**WHEREAS:** annually the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, spends an average of \$11.6 million on wildland fire suppression activities; and

**WHEREAS:** this amount is above the regular operating, pre-suppression, budget; and

**WHEREAS:** the fire season fluctuates dramatically from year to year; and

**WHEREAS:** of the expenses, an average of \$4 million is paid to village fire fighting crews, and the Bureau of Land Management expends an average of \$4.2 million in fire fighting wages, thus combined expenditures average \$8 million in wages; and

**WHEREAS:** wildland fires routinely threaten man-made improvements, villages and communities, yet little is done in terms of mitigation near villages; and

**WHEREAS:** mitigation measures would enable villages, communities, and other valuable properties to be made fire safe by the creation of defensible space over a period of time; and

**WHEREAS:** mitigation measures would eventually reduce suppression costs; and

**WHEREAS:** village fire fighting crews could be hired on a rotational basis to perform hazard reduction and resource management activities such as fuel break construction, prescribed burning, tree planting, timber sale layout, insect infestation control, tree pruning, cone collection, seed orchid planting, etc.; and

**WHEREAS:** a more stable income could be provided to village fire fighting personnel during slow suppression years, thus aiding in reducing the long term cost of subsequent public assistance expenditures; and

**WHEREAS:** village fire fighting crews would be better trained, managed, and conditioned as a result of this additional work;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that delegates to the 1992 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. request that during years of limited fire suppression activity the State of Alaska and the Bureau of Land Management research and consider the concept of expending 25% of the annual average suppression costs for hazard reduction projects throughout the state.

SUBMITTED BY: MTNT, Limited / Vicki Clayman

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: Do Pass

CONVENTION ACTION: Do Pass



# 1994 Fire Statistics

Fires statewide: 643

Acres burned: 265,721.6

## Fire Activity by Landowner

Landowner	Number	Acres
State	122	52,960.3
Borough/City	30	6.5
Private	242	1,127.8
Bureau of Land Mgmt.	75	93,675.4
National Park Service	15	10,331.6
Fish & Wildlife Service	59	74,879.5
Bureau of Indian Affairs	4	410.2
Native Claims Act Lands	55	20,393.2
Military	7	11,914.2
Forest Service	34	22.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>265,721.6</b>

## 1994 Fires by Cause on State Protected Land

Cause	Number	Acres
Lightning	73	85,274.1
Smoking	24	16.3
Campfires	85	4,126.6
Trash/debris	29	64.6
Land clearing	75	1,059.2
Children	50	206.5
Fireworks	22	11.1
Equipment use	12	11.6
Incendiarly/crson	16	7.1
Structures	18	3.5
Other	43	46.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>90,826.8</b>

## Emergency Firefighter Wages

Year	State	Federal	Total
1980-85	\$4,689,081	\$9,861,933	\$14,551,014
1986	2,515,750	2,832,208	5,347,958
1986 <sup>1</sup>	561,770	---	561,770
1987	646,674	5,352,799	5,999,473
1987 <sup>2</sup>	643,932	---	643,932
1988	4,474,107	5,146,661	9,620,968
1988 <sup>3</sup>	907,865	---	907,865
1989	1,805,955	2,276,175	4,082,130
1990	7,398,211	5,765,547	13,163,758
1991	5,344,384	3,741,521	9,085,905
1992	786,747	612,048	1,398,795
1993	3,699,629	580,866	4,280,495
1994	5,952,942	3,654,245	9,607,187
1995	904,492	207,958	1,112,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,331,539</b>	<b>\$40,032,161</b>	<b>\$80,363,700</b>

<sup>1</sup> Special appropriation due to Fair Labor Standards Act.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Dept. of Labor ruling required payment of time-and-one-half when week exceeded 40 hours. Amount shown was paid in 1990.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Dept. of Labor ruling required payment of time-and-one-half when week exceeded 40 hours. Amount shown was paid in 1991.

## Emergency Out-of-State Crew Use

Number of 20-person crews sent outside of Alaska to fight fires.<sup>1</sup>

Year	Crews
1985	39
1986	22
1987	59
1988	54
1989	61
1990	7
1991	0
1992	5
1993	0
1994	83
1995	1

<sup>1</sup> Wages are paid by other states or suppression agencies.



# Alaska Fire Chief's Association

2358 Broadway Road • North Pole, Alaska 99705 • (907) 488-3400 • Fax: (907) 488-6118

TIMOTHY J. BIGGANE  
*President*

MAR 15 1996

MICHAEL G. MCGOWAN  
*1st Vice President*  
(907) 474-7916  
Fairbanks

March 8, 1996

MIKE DOLPH  
*2nd Vice President*  
(907) 486-8040  
Kodiak

Senator Georgianna Lincoln  
Attn: Paula Terrel  
State Capital, Room 510  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

J. DEE KING  
*Secretary / Treasurer*  
(907) 488-3400  
North Pole

Dear Paula,

JIM WHITE  
*Director*  
(907) 278-2324  
Anchorage

Please accept this as a letter of support for SB201. It is a great pleasure to support such vital common sense legislation. So often details such as fire prevention activities usually lack the necessary glamor to attract the attention of the legislature. Not only has your support been noticed by the emergency services it is appreciated.

DAVID L. TYLER  
*Director*  
(907) 479-5672  
Fairbanks

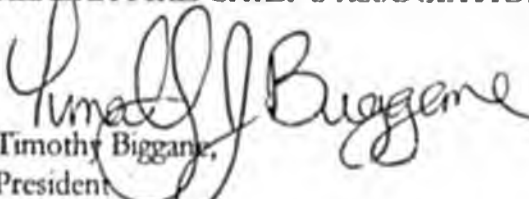
Attached is our resolution 96-03 strongly supporting SB201. If there is anything else we can do to support this or other pending legislation please let us know.

MIKE HOLZMUELLER  
*Director*  
(907) 474-6303  
Fairbanks

Respectfully,

ALASKA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

DANIEL L. GREGORY  
*Director*  
(907) 283-4202  
Nikiski

  
Timothy Biggane,  
President

JACK KRILL  
*Director*  
(907) 373-8800  
Wasilla

TJB:jdk

BILLY HARRIS  
*Past President*  
(907) 283-4388  
Nikiski



# Alaska Fire Chief's Association

2358 Bradway Road • North Pole, Alaska 99705 • (907) 488-3400 • Fax: (907) 488-6118

TIMOTHY J. BIGGANE  
*President*

## Resolution 96-03

MICHAEL G. MCGOWAN  
*1st Vice President*  
(907) 474-7916  
Fairbanks

MIKE DOLPH  
*2nd Vice President*  
(907) 486-8040  
Kodiak

J. DEE KING  
*Secretary / Treasurer*  
(907) 488-3400  
North Pole

JIM WHITE  
*Director*  
(907) 278-2324  
Anchorage

DAVID L. TYLER  
*Director*  
(907) 479-5672  
Fairbanks

MIKE HOIZMUELLER  
*Director*  
(907) 474-6303  
Fairbanks

DANIEL L. GREGORY  
*Director*  
(907) 283-4202  
Nikiski

JACK KRILL  
*Director*  
(907) 373-8800  
Wasilla

BILLY HARRIS  
*Past President*  
(907) 283-4388  
Nikiski

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 201 WHICH PROVIDES THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES WITH THE NECESSARY AUTHORITY TO HIRE EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTERS AND TO ASSIGN THEM TO FIRE PREVENTION RELATED TASKS.

**WHEREAS,** the Alaska Fire Chief's Association is dedicated to educating the public in matters of fire prevention,

**AND WHEREAS,** existing law authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources to hire emergency firefighters but does not expressly authorize their use for fire prevention or hazard reduction,

**AND WHEREAS,** in FY 95, the Division of Forestry received approval to receive and expend up to \$500,000 in federal receipts to supply emergency firefighting crews for use in fire prevention activities to federal agencies on a reimbursable basis.,

**AND WHEREAS,** SB201 would clarify that emergency firefighting personnel could be employed by the Department of Natural Resources in non-emergency circumstances to construct and maintain fire breaks and trails, remove brush and timber deadfall, conduct prescribed burns, etc.,

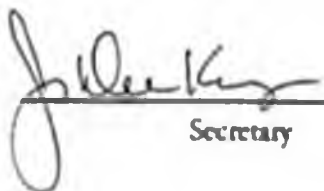
**AND WHEREAS,** SB201 would enable these federal dollars to be utilized by already trained firefighting crews for these projects.

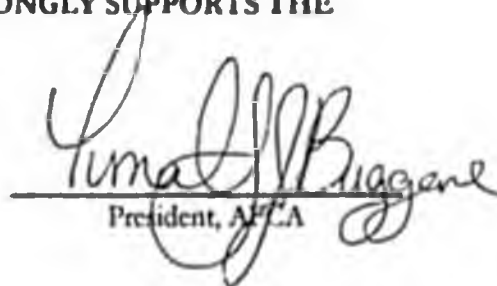
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,**

**THE ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE SIGNING OF SENATE BILL 201 INTO LAW.**

**ADOPTED, THIS 6th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1996.**

ATTEST:

  
Secretary

  
President, AFCA

73 crews plus  
 2 Hotshot crews (20 each)  
 1 Tazlawa & E crew (20 each)  
 APPENDIX B

## INTERAGENCY EFF CREW LOCATION LIST (1994)-95

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>16 Person CREWS</u>	<u>AGENCY*</u>	<u>3-LETTER DESIGNATION</u>
Allakaket/Alatna	2	AFS (TZ)	AET
Ambler	1	AFS (GZ)	ABL
Angoon	1	USFS (CMF)	ANG
Aniak	1	DOF (SWA)	ANI
Beaver	1	AFS (UYZ)	WBQ
Big Lake/Wasilla	1	DOF (MSA)	BGQ
Buckland	1	AFS (GZ)	7K5
Chalkyitsik	1	AFS (UYZ)	CIK
Chevak	2	DOF (SWA)	VAK
Copper River	2	DOF (VCRA)	CZC
Delta	2	DOF (DA)	BIG
Eagle	2	AFS (UYZ)	FAA
Fairbanks	2	DOF (FA)	FAI
Fort Yukon	3	AFS (UYZ)	FYU
Galena	1	AFS (GZ)	GAL
Grayling	1	AFS (GZ)	KGX
Holy Cross	1	AFS (GZ)	4Z4
Hooper Bay	3	DOF (SWA)	HPB
Hughes	1	AFS (TZ)	HUS
Huslia	2	AFS (GZ)	HSL
Kalskag, Lower	1	DOF (SWA)	KLG
Kalskag, Upper	1	DOF (SWA)	KLG
Kaltag	2	AFS (GZ)	KAL
Kiana	2	AFS (GZ)	IAN
Koyuk	1	AFS (GZ)	KKA
Koyukuk	1	AFS (GZ)	KYU
Marshall	1	AFS (GZ)	MLL
Mentasta	1	DOF (TA)	MEN
Minto	1	AFS (TZ)	51Z
Mountain Village	1	AFS (GZ)	MOU
Nenana	1	DOF (FA)	ENN
New Stuyahok	1	DOF (SWA)	KRW
Nikolai	1	DOF (SWA)	5NI
Nondalton	1	DOF (SWA)	5NN
Noorvik	2	AFS (GZ)	ORV
Northway	2	DOF (TA)	ORT
Nulato	2	AFS (GZ)	NUL
Pilot Station	1	AFS (GZ)	PST
Rampart	1	AFS (TZ)	RMP
Ruby	1	AFS (GZ)	RBV

## INTERAGENCY EFF CREW LOCATION LIST (1994)

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CREWS</u>	<u>AGENCY*</u>	<u>3-LETTER DESIGNATION</u>
Scammon Bay	1	DOF (SWA)	SCM
Selawik	2	AFS (GZ)	WLK
Shageluk	1	DOF (SWA)	SHX
Shungnak	1	AFS (GZ)	SHG
Sleetmute	1	DOF (SWA)	SLQ
Stebbins	2	AFS (GZ)	WBB
Stevens Village	1	AFS (UYZ)	SVS
St. Marys	1	AFS (GZ)	KSM
St. Michael	1	AFS (GZ)	SMK
Tanacross	1	DOF (TA)	TSG
Tanana	2	AFS (TZ)	TAL
Tetlin	1	DOF (TA)	STE
Tok	1	DOF (TA)	GKB
Venetic	1	AFS (UYZ)	VEE

## \* AFS Zones:

- GZ - Galena Zone, Galena
- TZ - Tanana Zone, Tanana
- UYZ - Upper Yukon Zone, Central

## \* DOF Areas:

- SWA - Southwest Area, McGrath
- MSA - Mat-Su Area, Big Lake
- VCRA - Valdez/Copper River Area, Glennallen
- TA - Tok Area, Tok
- DA - Delta Area, Delta Junction
- FA - Fairbanks Area, Fairbanks

## \* USFS Areas:

- CMF - U.S. Forest Service, Chatham Area, Sitka

## Summary:

AFS	44
DOF	28
USFS	1
<u>Total</u>	73 crews

There are also 2 HOTSHOT crews by Alaska Fire Service 20 each  
 1 Type I EFF Crew - Tazlina 20



Many of these emergency fire fighting crews live in rural/bush Alaska. Job opportunities are limited in these communities. The legislation allows for increased flexibility for using the trained emergency fire fighter crews in rural/bush Alaska to fulfill the manpower-intensive prevention projects.

Basic fire prevention projects, such as clearing brush around villages could be performed prior to an emergency situation. During years when fire fighting jobs are not available, enactment of this legislation would help to stabilize Alaska's economy in various regions by providing off-season employment.

In conclusion, Senate Bill 201 will result in a considerable savings to the state while providing a substantial economic benefit to smaller Alaska communities.

