

**SB**

**2008**

# Alaska State Legislature

## SENATE DISTRICT 1

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bayshore          | Abbott Loop       |
| Campbell          | Bear Valley       |
| Dimond            | Bird Creek/Indian |
| Independence Park | Girdwood          |
| Klatt             | Glen Alps         |
| Old Seward        | Hillside          |
| Southport         | Huffman/O'Malley  |
| Taku              | Portage           |
|                   | Rabbit Creek      |

716 WEST 4TH AVENUE, SUITE 530  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
(907) 258-8194

While in Session:  
STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182  
(907) 465-2995 1-800-365-2995

SENATOR SEAN PARNELL

February 4, 1998

Senator Jerry Mackie  
Chair, Senate Community and Regional Affairs  
Capital Room 427

Dear Senator  Mackie:

I am respectfully submitting this request for a Community and Regional Affairs committee hearing on Senate Bill 208, an act providing for voter approval of the alteration or abolishment of certain municipal service areas. I would appreciate any effort that can be made to hear the bill late next week or early the week following.

Regards,



Senator Sean Parnell

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**SENATOR SEAN PARNELL**

## **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

### **Senate Bill 208**

**"An act providing for voter approval of the alteration or abolishment of certain municipal service areas"**

This legislation was introduced as a means of strengthening local control of service areas. These areas have enabled residents to assess themselves to the particular degree and scope of service they seek without the overhead that typically exists if service were provided by a larger governmental entity.

Essentially, SB 208 would prohibit a borough or municipality from absorbing or abolishing a service area without first requiring a vote of the people covered by the service area.

Board of Supervisors  
R.S.A. #25 Bogard  
P.O. Box 2274  
Palmer, AK. 99645

January 24, 1998

TO: Senator Sean Parnell  
State Capitol Room 504  
Juneau, AK. 99801

Dear Senator Parnell,

The board of supervisors for R.S.A. # 25 Bogard has discussed Senate Bill 208 and we enthusiastically support it. We believe it is still important to allow taxpayers to have a voice in the spending of their tax monies. Local control is important to the residents of this road service area. Thank you for your assistance in maintaining it.

Sincerely Yours,

Valen C. Bair  
Primary R.S.A. # 25

Valen C. Bair

William Larkin  
Board R.S.A. # 25

William Larkin

Wrex Diem  
Board R.S.A. # 25

Wrex R Diem

Law Offices of  
**Douglas L. Blankenship**  
 406 Cushman Street, Suite 2  
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
 907-452-4300 fax 456-2523  
 E-Mail Address: 104576.2433@compuserve.com

Via Facsimile -- 465-6592

January 26, 1998

JAN 26 1998

Senator Sean Parnell  
 State Capitol Room 504  
 Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Parnell:

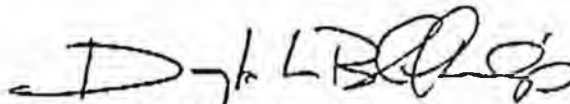
I am chairman of the Scenic Heights Service Area located in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. I support the amendments contained in Senate Bill 208. Several years ago, the Fairbanks North Star Borough mandated that the Scenic Heights Service Area include a noncontiguous subdivision located at approximately one-half mile from the border of the Scenic Heights Service Area. Although our service area objected, we were required to accept the Borough's decision.

The amendments requested in your bill are reasonable because, as you know, the members of the Service Area Commission volunteer their time to assist their community. It is inappropriate for a municipality to impose additional responsibility and time commitments upon the Service Area Commissioners who volunteer their time when the majority of the service area members object to a proposed action.

Thank you for your efforts.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICES OF DOUGLAS L. BLANKENSHIP



Douglas L. Blankenship

DLB/clm

cc: Senator Gary Wilken via facsimile 465-4714  
 Representative John Davies via facsimile 465-3519

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**cc:Mail for: Senator Sean Parnell**

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**Subject:** SB208

**From:** vhoefler@mosquitonet.com (Vaughan Hoefler) at CC2MHS1 1/28/98 11:18 AM

**To:** Senator Sean Parnell at LAA\_TRANS

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Dear Senator Parnell,

On behalf of the road service area commissioners for the Ester Lump Service Area located near Fairbanks, we support your effort to implement SB 208.

Voter approval for the formation, alteration, or abolishment of certain service areas would allow residents to more fairly decide on such changes. Our service area recently faced an annexation issue in which the Borough sought to add non-contiguous roads several miles distant to our road system. The condition of the roads proposed for annexation were significantly different than our own, built at different times, and subject to

slightly different weather conditions. Nevertheless, the North Star Borough

Rural Services Division presented this annexation issue as the only option to the residents of both areas. Many of our area's residents vented their frustration for not having any "say" in the ability to direct the future of our roads.

After two Assembly meetings, and following the testimony of many residents, the assembly moved for the creation of a separate service area.

Had AS 29.35.450 (voter approval of alteration or abolishment of service areas)

been in effect, our concerns would have been brought forth long before the Borough expended considerable time and funds developing this plan.

Thank you for taking the effort to make these changes, as they will provide service area residents the opportunity to more effectively govern the growth or change of their areas.

Please feel free to call me at 907-452-7955 if you have any questions.

Carol Hoefler