

**SB**

**139**

# Alaska State Legislature

## Committee Membership

Senate Finance  
Senate Resources  
Senate Rules  
Legislative Budget & Audit



*Senator John Torgerson*

District Address:  
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Session Address:  
State Capitol; Room 514  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
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## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### CSSB 139 - AID FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Senate Bill 139 revises current statutes so that payments would be provided to volunteer fire departments and emergency medical services organizations, and would not be restricted to only those in the unorganized area.

There are a number of small, volunteer fire departments and EMS groups in Alaska who are within an organized borough, but receive either very limited or no financial support from either the borough or applicable municipality.

This legislation would allow:

A volunteer fire department to receive state aid if

- (1) it is registered with the State Fire Marshall
- (2) it is serving an area with a population of less than 2,500.

An EMS to receive state aid if

- (1) it is certified to provide EMS
- (2) it provides ambulance services
- (3) serves an area with a population of less than 2,500.

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## Sectional Analysis

### CSSB 139(CRA) - State Aid for Volunteer Services

**Section 1:** Amends **AS 29.20.640(b)** by changing statute citations to reflect new volunteer services program.

**Section 2:** Amends **AS 29.45.020** by changing statute citations to reflect new volunteer services program.

**Section 3:** Amends **AS 29.45.660(b)** by changing statute citations to reflect new volunteer services program.

**Section 4:** Amends **29.60.130**, **State aid for volunteer fire departments not in organized municipality**, by changing volunteer "fire departments" to volunteer "services" and deletes language which requires the aid to only apply to those not in an organized municipality. New language requires recipients of the state aid to serve an area with a population of less than 2,500. No change in the per capita payment of \$10.00 for the volunteer fire department.

**Section 5:** New subsections to amended **AS 29.60.130 State aid for volunteer services:**

(c) New language authorizing \$10.00 per capita payment to organizations providing emergency medical services, if the organization is certified to provide the service; provides ambulance services; and serves an area with a population of less than 2,500.

(d) New language directing payments to reflect area cost-of-living differentials.

(e) New language establishing the volunteer services account; language to direct the allocation process; and language requiring a pro rata distribution among recipients.

**Section 6:** Amends **AS 29.60.170**, **Miscellaneous services account**, by revising citations required as a result of the bill.

**Section 7:** Amends 29.60.280(a) Allocation and Distribution by adding new statute citation for new volunteer services program.

**Section 8:** Amends 29.60.280(b) Allocation and Distribution by changing statute citations to reflect new volunteer services program and new language requiring any excess appropriation to be reallocated to the tax equalization account.

**Section 9:** Amends 29.60.290(a) by changing statute citations to reflect new volunteer services program.

**Section 10:** Amends AS 29.60.290(c) by changing statute citations to reflect new volunteer services program.

**Section 11:** Effective date of legislation.

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## MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 4, 1997  
TO: Senator John Torgerson  
FROM: Mary Jackson *MJA*  
RE: SB 139 - Draft Committee Substitute before S(CRA)

The draft committee substitute for SB 139 expands the existing state funding program to include Volunteer Fire Departments and EMS groups, subject to being certified or registered with the State; having a service area of less than 2,500 people; and in the case of EMS, providing ambulance services.

I have worked with several offices to provide information on the number of fire departments and EMS groups which would be affected by this CS. Please note, during that contact, we also discussed the most expedient means to provide these funds, without impacting existing offices-keeping down the "administrative" fiscal costs. This CS presents a reasonable process to provide funding to the volunteers without additional agency administrative costs.

The spread sheets for the EMS groups was developed through information provided by the State's Emergency Medical Services Section. The spread sheets for the Fire Departments was developed through information from the Fire Department Directory, compared to a community population list provided by the Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

Based on that preliminary information, the numbers of affected groups are:

1. Total area population of registered Volunteer Fire Depts: 43,080
2. Total area population of certified EMS groups: 33,519

Below is a spread on possible programs costs.

	<u>Population</u>	<u>@\$10.00</u>	<u>@\$ 5.00</u>	<u>@\$3.30 (FY97)</u>
Fire Departments	43,080	\$ 430,800	\$215,400	\$142,164
EMS Groups:	33,519	\$ 335,190	\$167,595	\$110,613
TOTAL:	76,599	\$ 765,990	\$382,995	\$252,777



# SB 139 Information: S(CRA) Fire Department under 2,500 population

Fire Department	Status	Population	Fire Department	Status	Population
Akhiok	U	84	Levelock	U	111
Akiachak	U	554	Lime Village	U	44
Akiak	U	328	Little Diomedea	U	172
Akutan	U	414	Manokotak	U	396
Alakanuk	U	633	Mekoryuk	U	200
Allakaket	U	178	Mentasta	U	108
Ambler	U	322	Minto	U	251
Angoon	U	609	Mountain Village	U	724
Aniak	U	595	Nanwalek	U	167
Anvik	U	91	Napakiak	U	341
Actic Village	U	117	Napaskiak	U	420
Atmaultluak	U	311	Nelson Lagoon	U	79
Bear Creek	U	?	Newtok	U	273
Beaver	U	104	Nightmute	U	199
Buckland	U	416	Ninilchik	U	643
Chalkyitsik	U	92	Noatak	U	413
Chevak	U	708	Noorvik	U	575
Chignik Lake	U	152	Northway	U	125
Chignik	U	128	Nulato	U	349
Chitina	U	82	Old Harbor	U	316
Chauthbaluk	U	123	Pilot Point	U	80
Clarks Point	U	66	Pilot Station	U	536
Cold Bay	U	146	Pitka's Point	U	153
Deering	U	141	Platinum	U	39
Dot Lake	U	74	Point Baker	U	53
Elim	U	264	Port Graham	U	176
Galena	U	529	Port Heiden	U	147
Golovin	U	163	Quinhagak	U	567
Goodnews Bay	U	253	Rampart	U	65
Golovin	U	163	Red Devil	U	65
Goodnews Bay	U	253	Saxman	U	390
Gulkana	U	100	Scammon Bay	U	425
Holy Cross	U	261	Selawik	U	665
Hooper Bay	U	996	Shageluk	U	139
Hope Sunrise	U	160	Shungnak	U	251
Hughes	U	55	St. Maryisam (St. Mary's)	U	501
Hydaburg	U	410	St. Michael	U	351
Hyder	U	133	Stebbins	U	507
Kake	U	712	Stevens Village	U	115
Kivalina	U	349	Stony River	U	403
Klukwan	U	140	Takotna	U	46
Kobuk	U	78	Tanacross	U	75
Koliganek	U	210	Tanana	U	293
Kongiganak	U	322	Tatitlik	U	125
Kotlik	U	517	Telida	U	8
Koyuk	U	280	Teller	U	278
Koyukuk	U	131	Tetlin	U	82
Kupreanof	U	23	Togiak	U	740
Larsen Bay	U	127	Toksook Bay	U	488

## SB 139 Information: S(CRA) Fire Department under 2,500 population

("U" continued)		
<u>Fire Department</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Population</u>
Tulkisamute	U	411
Tununak	U	327
Twin Hills	U	67
Tyonek	U	148
Wales	U	165
Yakatat	U	802
<b>Total "U":</b>		<b>28,706</b>

"U" indicates unregistered departments

<u>Fire Department</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Population</u>
Adak	N	596
Anaktuvuk	N	306
Atqasuk	N	226
Kaktovik	N	223
Nuiqsut	N	435
Point Hope	.	764
Point Lay	N	180
Salcha	N	374
Wainwright	N	563
<b>Total "N":</b>		<b>3,667</b>

"N" indicates not applicable

## SB 139: Possible EMS Inclusion

<u>Interior Region</u>	<u>Certified</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>At \$5.00</u>
Anderson Vol Fire/EMS	Yes	626	\$3,130
Cantwell Volunteer Ambulance	Yes	145	\$725
Delta Rescue Squad	Yes	828	\$4,140
Denali National Park Ambulance	?	200	\$1,000
Eagle Emergency Medical Service	Yes	139	\$695
Fort Yukon Emerg Medical Srv	Yes	597	\$2,985
Galena Health Center	Yes	527	\$2,635
Healy-Tri-Valley Vol Fire Dept.	Yes	605	\$3,025
McGrath-Kuskokwim Resc Squad	?	479	\$2,395
Nenana Vol Fire/EMS Dept.	Yes	361	\$1,805
North Pole Fire Dept., City of	Yes	1,649	\$8,245
Salcha Rescue, Inc.	Yes	384	\$1,920
Tanana EMS	?	312	\$1,560
Tok Area EMS	Yes	1,204	\$6,020
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>8,056</b>	<b>\$40,280</b>
<b><u>Southeast Region</u></b>			
Angoon Emer Response Team	?	601	\$3,005
Coffman Cove EMS	Yes	254	\$1,270
Craig EMS	Yes	1,946	\$9,730
Gustavus Emergency Response	?	328	\$1,640
Haines Volunteer Fire Dept.	Yes	1,363	\$6,815
Hollis EMS	Yes	106	\$530
Hoonah Vol EMS	Yes	903	\$4,515
Hydaburg EMS	Yes	406	\$2,030
Hyder Emergency Services	?	138	\$690
Kake EMS	Yes	696	\$3,480
Klawock EMS	Yes	759	\$3,795
Metlakatla VFD Amb Service	Yes	1,540	\$7,700
Skagway VFD/EMS Divison	Yes	811	\$4,055
Thorne Bay Vol Rescue Squad	?	650	\$3,250
(Ward Cove) Pond Reef VFD	Yes	?	?
Whale Pass Vol. EMS	Yes	92	\$460
Yakutat Vol. EMS Rescue	Yes	801	\$4,005
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>11,394</b>	<b>\$56,970</b>

## SB 139: Possible EMS Inclusion

<u>Southern Region</u>	<u>Certified</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>At \$5.00</u>
Anchor Point VFD & Rescue	Yes	1,137	\$5,685
Bear Creek Vol. Fire & EMS	Yes	?	?
Big Lake Amb. Service	Yes	2,057	\$10,285
Chignik Bay Vol. Fire/EMS Dept.	Yes	141	\$705
Chugiak Vol. Fire & Rescue	Yes	?	?
Cold Bay EMS Squad	Yes	107	\$535
Cooper Landing Rescue	Yes	283	\$1,415
Copper Center-Copper River EMS	Yes	494	\$2,470
Dillingham Vol. Fire/Rescue	Yes	2,243	\$11,215
Girdwood EMS/Muni. of Anch.	Yes	?	?
Glennallen-Copper River EMSC	Yes	493	\$2,465
Houston Amb. Service	Yes	956	\$4,780
Kenny Lake-Copper River EMSC	Yes	460	\$2,300
King Cove Vol Fire & Rescue	Yes	716	\$3,580
Moose Pass Vol Fire Dept	Yes	119	\$595
Naknek-Bristol Bay Boro Vol Res	Yes	617	\$3,085
Ninilchik Comm. Amb. Assoc.	Yes	597	\$2,985
Port Graham EMS	Yes	170	\$850
Saint Paul Vol. Rescue	?	767	\$3,835
Sand Point EMS	Yes	844	\$4,220
Seldovia Vol Fire & Rescue	Yes	289	\$1,445
Sutton Ambulance Service	Yes	328	\$1,640
Talkeetna Ambulance Service	Yes	330	\$1,650
Trapper Creek Amb. Service	Yes	304	\$1,520
Tyonek Vol. Rescue Squad	?	154	\$770
Whittier Vol Amb. Service	Yes	284	\$1,420
<b>SubTotal</b>		<b>13,749</b>	<b>\$69,450</b>
<b>Yukon-Kuskokwim Region</b>			
Aniak Vol. Fire Dept.	Yes	320	\$1,600
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>320</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>
<b>Interior Region</b>			
		<b>8,056</b>	<b>\$40,280</b>
<b>Southeast Region</b>			
		<b>11,394</b>	<b>\$56,970</b>
<b>Southern Region</b>			
		<b>13,749</b>	<b>\$69,450</b>
<b>Y/K Region</b>			
		<b>320</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>33,519</b>	<b>\$168,300</b>