

SB

2009



Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Sponsor Statement Senate Bill 209

JERRY WARD

State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-4900
Fax (907) 465-3766

716 W. 4th Ave., Ste. 450
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133
Phone (907) 258-8183
Fax (907) 258-0820

145 Main Street Loop
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone (907) 283-7996
Fax (907) 283-3075

"An Act relating to the Task Force on Privatization;
and providing for an effective date"

Privatization is the fundamental political and economic reassessment of the role of government and the private sector in the modern state. It is a variety of management techniques and activities encouraging more involvement of the private sector in providing government services. Markets are efficient only when they are competitive, however, efficiency should not be government's only goal. Government must balance the pursuit of efficiency with effectiveness, while maintaining the confidence of the people it represents.

SB 209 was introduced to establish a task force that will review functions of state government that could easily be transferred to the private sector. The task force will have members from the public, legislative and executive branches of government.

In this time of decreased revenue the State of Alaska needs an all encompassing evaluation of governmental services and their delivery. Forty-eight other states, including Alaska, have streamlined some governmental services through a number of methods including outsourcing and privatization. When enacted, this bill will evaluate which services could be provided more efficiently by the private sector as well as highlight those services that are better provided by the government. The report will provide a road map for reducing the size and cost of state government, without reducing service, while providing options for the future.

SB 209 will also look into the State's contracting procedures to make sure Alaskans are getting the most out of every contracting dollar spent.