

SCR

16

(7)

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Referred to Committee: April 10, 2000

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/13/00

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

SCR 16

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

AVALANCHE AWARENESS MONTH

Relating to Avalanche Awareness Month.

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) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) See STA

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Shannette James</i>	✓			
<i>Hal Smalley</i>	✓			
<i>Bern Bertal</i>	✓			
<i>Joseph B. Brown</i>	✓			
<i>M. A. ...</i>	✓			
<i>Scott Dyer</i>	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Shannette James*

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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SENATOR LYDA GREEN
SENATE DISTRICT N

SPONSOR STATEMENT SCR16

Alaska is avalanche country. Each year Alaskans lose their lives as a result of avalanches. One of the worst years was 1999, when 14 people were killed by avalanches in Alaska. While often little or nothing can be done to prevent the occurrence of an avalanche, much can be done to prevent the loss of life from avalanches.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 16 would proclaim November as "Avalanche Awareness Month." This proclamation would raise public awareness of the hazards associated with avalanches, and the opportunities to participate in avalanche safety training at the beginning of the winter recreation season. It is hoped that public participation in avalanche safety programs would be increased and that this increased participation would result in saved lives during the winter.

The need for this resolution was brought to our attention by the Backcountry Avalanche Awareness Response Team (BAART).

AVALANCHE AWARENESS MONTH

RESOLUTION/PROCLAMATION REQUESTED

In 1999 fourteen lives were lost in avalanches in Alaska; by February 6, 2000, two more lives were taken by avalanches. In memory of these loved ones, we encourage the governor and Alaska State Legislature to declare November as AVALANCHE AWARENESS MONTH in support of efforts to educate Alaskans about avalanche awareness and safety measures.

RATIONALE

This declaration/resolution would support the efforts of educators, recreation groups, and concerned Alaskan citizens to educate Alaskans of all ages on the subjects of avalanche awareness, safety measures, proper equipment and how to use it, and how to initiate immediate emergency response in avalanche situations. November is an optimum time to emphasize awareness and safety equipment as this is when Alaskans' thoughts turn to winter activities and many begin purchasing outdoor equipment. Emphasizing these topics in November would allow time for people to think about purchasing safety equipment (such as probes, shovels, avalanche beacons, etc.) as Christmas gifts.

November is also a prime time for the presentation of awareness and safety classes in schools and community school classes, by recreation groups, and other related organizations. Many response teams also begin practicing at this time; by raising public awareness of the importance of these groups, perhaps even more members of the public will become trained to help in emergency situations.

If these combined efforts help to save one Alaskan life, then the loss of loved ones in recent Alaskan avalanches would have had at least one positive outcome.

LIVES LOST IN 1999 ALASKAN AVALANCES

Aaron Joseph Arthur (age 29), Palmer
Jodi Combs (age 26), Anchorage
Dan Demers (age 37), Eagle River
Tech. Sgt. Victor Jones, Elmendorf, family in Wasilla
Jeff Saunders (age 29), Anchorage
Chris Scott (age 28), Anchorage

Odman Schmalzried, Wasilla

Gary Stone, Cordova

K. J. Hayes, Healy

Katrina Winchell, Juneau
Matthew Brakel, Juneau

Jim Haberl, Canadian, lost in Wrangell, St. Elias National Park

Jikolai Metashvili, University student, Sitka

Keith Coyne, Wasilla

LIVES LOST THUS FAR BY FEBRUARY 14, 2000

Martha Quales (age 63), Cordova

Kerry Brookman (age 53), Wasilla

**SOME OF THE
ALASKAN FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE LOSS OF LOVED
ONES IN RECENT AVALANCHES**

Aaron Joseph Arthur

Trina (Devries) Arthur (wife)

Jerry and Aedene Arthur (parents)

Beth Arthur (sister) and Medzit Limani

Brenna Arthur

Tana Arthur-Blum (sister) and Charles Blum

Zaya Arthur-Gunton and Aaron Arthur Blum

Burton and Delta Jensen (grandparents)

Families by Marriage

Lee and Maralyn Hartley

Sig and Mike Wellman

Clare and Kevin McClure

Brenda Hartley

Eric and Tamara Moffitt

Jessie, Maralyn, Kassi, Jeanie

Krystal Moffitt

Chloe, Travis, Tyler

Randy Moffitt

Cory, Levi

Denise and Lloyd Hubbard

Holly, Tara, Heidi, Willow, Lukas, Naomi

Grant and Susan Dunnigan

Hannah, Jeffrey

Andrea Dunnigan

Nicole, Jasmine, Reuben

Alice and Marty Mobley

Michael, Austin

Jamie Davis and James Wolsterman

Brandon, Stormy

Grace Valley

Jessie Devries

Andy and Dawn Devries

Breann, Jason, Megan, Tristan

David Devries
Rocky and Barbara Morin
John Devries
Marie Keene

(The Arthur family added that there are hundreds of family/friends who also mourn Aaron's death from the communities of Tanana, Ruby, New Stuyahok, Dillingham, Anchorage, and the Mat-Su Valley)

Jodi Combs

Lisa Combs (wife) and daughter Korah

Richard and Nancy Combs (parents)

 Sherri, Brenda, and Theresa (sisters)

 Shantelle, Dianna, Alexis (nieces)

Malen and Adella Combs (grandparents)

 Robert and Madonna Combs

 Ralph and Kathy Combs

 Tracy, Todd, Amanda, Evan, Melissa, Ken

Vic Jones

Dawn (wife) and Sarah (daughter)

Chris Scott

Ed and Linda Scott (parents)

 Brian (brother)

Odman Schmalzried

Kelli (wife)

Karen ; Shawn and Cheyanne (son and daughter)

George and Mildred Schmalzried (parents)
Georgia (sister) and Tom Flood
Richard, Ryan, Randon, Robert
Rhonda (sister) and Bob Koski
Christopher, Robin, Brittany, Curtis
David Schmalzried (brother)

JoAnn Warren
Jane and Pete Guzialek
Glenn and Carol Kooly
Paula Smith
Kent and Carol Seibert
Pam, Corbin, Darre.

K.J. Hayes

Angel (wife) and son David

Gina Moreno (sister)
Jessica
Richard and Sophie (sister) Dickman
Eric and Nevera, Andrew
Dakota
Mark Moreno (brother)
Travis, Joshua, Alex, Justine

(Angel wanted the communities of Cantwell, Healy, and Denali National Park to be added as family who grieve the loss of K.J.)

Keith Coyne

Heidi (wife) and children Gregory and Amanda

Robert R and Patricia G. Coyne (parents)
Cleve Z. Coyne (brother)
Angela (sister) and Ed Reavis
Nathan, Jeremy, Heather, Edward

Wesley (brother) and Michelle Coyne
Jonathan
O'Neal (brother) and Wendy Coyne
Sierra, Colton
Andy (brother) Coyne
Jason
Herbert, Angelie, Kathy

Families by Marriage

Richard and Susan Rinio
Earl and Sabra Rinic
Dave and Jeanne Mumford
Rolland Kennerson
Lori Kneflekamp

FINAL NOTE

These are just a few of the families affected by the loss of loved ones. If you add the names to this list of family members that could not be contacted at this time, as well as the hundreds of Alaskan friends and communities that grieve these losses, the list would be be gigantic.

Those lost in avalanches thus far in 1999-2000 lived in many different communities; avalanches can occur throughout many areas of this great state. Loved ones can be lost whether enjoying the outdoors in a variety of ways, working, or relaxing at home. Hopefully through education and awareness, Alaska will not lose so many of its loved ones in this manner in the future.

(ps. Any mistakes in spelling of names or of relationship was unintentional, and the typist apologizes for any mistakes that were made.)

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the families
listed, and in memory
of the loved ones lost
in avalanches,
Amy R. Arthur
Ardene L. Arthur
February 15, 2000

FISCAL NOTE No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SCR 16
(S) Publish Date: 4-7-00

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected _____
 Title "Relating to Avalanche BRU _____
Awareness Month." Component _____
 Sponsor Senate State Affairs Com. _____
 Requester _____ Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No Fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Brown - Senate State Affairs Phone 465-4940
 Division _____ Date/Time _____
 Approved by Commissioner _____ Date 3-28-00
 Agency _____

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