

SCR

4

March 25, 2003

Good morning Mr. chairman and members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Bob Janes, I have lived in Douglas for 38 years. During that time I worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 18 years.

I support this Resolution about snow avalanche awareness, both as a concerned citizen of our state, and as a current board member for the Southeast Alaska Avalanche Center.

In the early 1980's the Forest Service was a lead agency in helping to develop and operate a statewide avalanche warning system for Alaska. It was a cooperative effort, with twelve federal, state, and municipal government agencies participating. My job was to represent the Forest Service in that project.

This Resolution should help to strengthen the awareness of the dangers and risks involved with snow avalanches throughout Alaska. I am hopeful that it may also be a step toward restoring the operation of a statewide avalanche warning system fully capable of meeting the needs for effective avalanche education and forecasting.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in its behalf.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



(907) 376-3157 Fax

SENATOR LYDA GREEN
SENATE DISTRICT G

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SCR4

A Resolution relating to Avalanche Awareness Month

Alaska is avalanche country. Each year Alaska loses more people to avalanches than any other state, regardless of population. During the last four winters alone, 31 Alaskans have died in avalanches. This winter, school buses on Thane road in Juneau were hit two times by avalanche dust clouds. It is chilling to think of the possible outcomes. While often little 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 4 would proclaim November 2003 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 recreational season. It is hoped that public participation in avalanche safety programs will be increased and that this increased participation will result in saved lives during the winter.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSSCR 4(STA)
 (S) Publish Date: 3/10/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title AVALANCHE AWARENESS MONTH BRU _____
 Sponsor Senator Green Component _____
 Requester Senate State Affairs Committee Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
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)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

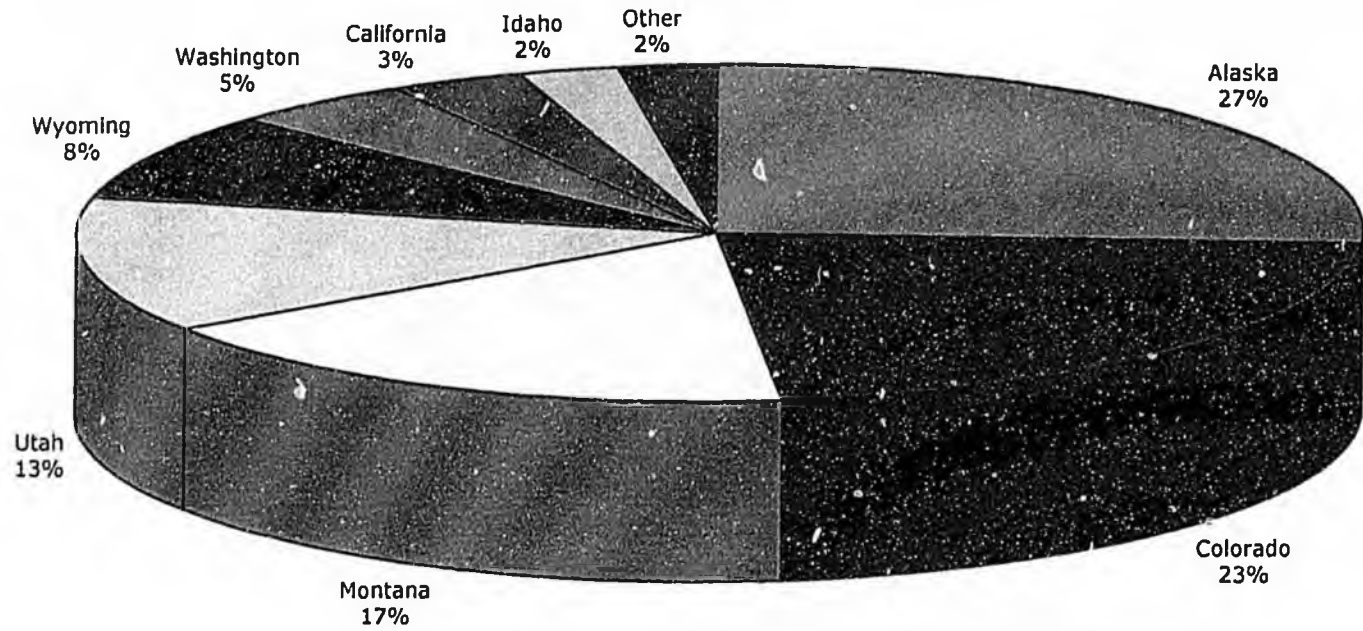
ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE Phone 465-4522
 Division _____ Date/Time 3/7/03 1:55 PM
 Approved by: Senator Gary Stevens, Chair Date 3/7/2003
 Agency _____

US Avalanche Fatalities by State, 1998-2002

N=121

Compiled by Southeast Alaska Avalanche Center, 06-24-02



Alaska Avalanche Fatalities by Activity 98-02

N=31

Compiled by Southeast Alaska Avalanche Center, 06-24-02

