

ALASKA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-02

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR THE ALASKA FIRE STANDARDS COUNCIL;

- WHEREAS: Ensuring adequate fire protection in all communities will save lives, promote business growth, reduce lawsuits, reduce losses and result in lower insurance premiums, and
- WHEREAS: Urban and rural communities throughout Alaska need to have realistic and attainable training standards to protect life and property from fire and other disasters, and
- WHEREAS: In 1998 the Legislature established, but did not fund, the Alaska Fire Standards Council to develop and regulate training for all fire departments (AS 18.70.330), and
- WHEREAS: Statutory provisions were made for insurance companies to receive tax breaks for donations to the Alaska Fire Standards Council yet the majority of companies have not responded, and
- WHEREAS: The Alaska Fire Chief's Association feels that current national fire protection standards for fire protection and training are not financially attainable for most urban and rural fire departments and that the adoption of realistic Alaska standards would save lives and avoid a national trend toward litigation alleging inadequate training, and
- WHEREAS: Sustainable funding sources for the Alaska Fire Standards Council, assistance for local matching of Federal Fire Act grants and grants for local fire department training is needed,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Alaska Fire Chief's Association supports HB 211 and SB 154 proposing a fire training fee of \$3.00 on all fire insurance policies issued in Alaska. The revenue generated from this fee would be used to fund the Alaska Fire Standards Council, provide the local match necessary for the Federal Fire Act grants and provide training grants to local fire departments.

Adopted this 28th day of September 2007 at the annual fall conference in Valdez, Alaska.

Attested by:


Douglas R. Schrage, Alaska Fire Chief's Association President