



Representative Scott Jiu Wo Kawasaki

Alaska State Legislature

District 1 Fairbanks

House Bill 203 Sponsor Statement

An Act relating to the sale of remote recreational cabin sites.

House Bill 203 would allow Alaskans to build private recreational cabins on 2.5 acres of unencumbered state land not in use or planned for use and is not part of any current or anticipated state, federal or ANCSA land selections.

Interested Alaskan residents would select from a state-approved list of surveyors to have the parcel surveyed and its boundaries certified. Those seeking state land would be responsible for paying the assessed fair-market price for the land as well as all costs associated with surveying and appraising the parcel.

House Bill 203 includes limits on the amount of lake or river frontage allowed in each parcel. Family members would be free to stake adjacent land, but no one individual could own more than one parcel at a time.

This purchasing program would run parallel with the current Land Lottery system in place in state administrative code. The current Land Lottery system in Alaska has been widely successful, but it limits the available land to pre-selected areas. This bill leaves the choice of land to individuals who would then bear the cost of the land.

The land of many remote cabins in Alaska has been purchased by the Federal government, and the cabins destroyed, leaving many Alaskans looking for new locations to build a remote getaway. This new system for dispersing state land would go a long way to satisfying Alaskans' Last Frontier spirit for private land and would also promote recreation and enjoyment of additional areas in Alaska.

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In Juneau ○ State Capitol Juneau, Alaska 99801

In Fairbanks ○ 1292 Sadler Way Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Juneau ○ (907) 465-3466 ○ Fax (907) 465-2937 ○ **Fairbanks** ○ (907) 456-7423 ○ Fax (907) 451-9293

Email: Rep.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov