DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF INSURANCE

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BULLETIN B99-06

TO: All Insurance Companies Writing Property Insurance in Alaska

RE: Fire Hazard Mitigation Discounts

The Alaska Division of Insurance has recently received a number of inquiries asking whether Alaska's insurance laws would allow the use of rating adjustments based upon whether dwelling residents are smokers or non-smokers or whether smoking is allowed on a particular premises.

Unless done in an unfairly discriminatory manner, Alaskan law allows insurers to recognize most risk characteristics or hazards that affect the subject of an insurance policy. The division acknowledges that smoking at an insured premises is a hazard that may well increase the risks for that property. The division is therefore willing to entertain proposals for rating systems that recognize the difference in expected losses that may result from smoking-related accidents at locations where smoking is permitted or actually occurs regularly.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact the Division of Insurance; P.O. Box 110805; Juneau, AK 99811-0805, (907) 465-2515; fax (907) 465-3422; or via electronic mail at:

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Marianne K. Burke Director of Insurance

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