



Representative Beth Kerttula

Sponsor Statement

**House Bill 291
Electronic Notices under Administrative Procedure Act**

House Bill 291 changes the public notice procedures used by state agencies for adopting regulations. HB 291 requires state agencies to provide each legislator a *single* notice of their proposed regulations via email, rather than the multiple paper copies currently provided to each legislator, standing legislative committees, and the Administrative Regulation Review Committee. HB 291 also standardizes the statutory language so that a notice is “furnished” (to include via email) to other parties under AS 44.62.190.

HB 291 utilizes today’s technology to streamline the government regulatory process. By using an electronic format, HB 291 simplifies the production, handling and delivery of notices. Substituting one email message for 60-plus letters mailed to legislators’ offices reduces agency staff time, printing, and mailing costs. At the receiving end, legislative staff time spent handling the regulatory paperwork will be reduced.

HB 291 leaves in place existing methods of public notice if required by other statutes or allows a notice by mail if requested by a person. However, to the extent that State agencies increase their electronic transmission of regulatory notices to other parties, HB 291 also facilitates more efficient and timely delivery of notices statewide to individuals, organization and business, where appropriate.