Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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Representative Harry Crawford District 21

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 512

House Bill 512 establishes a hydrogen energy partnership within the Department of Community and Economic Development. The partnership is tasked with facilitating the development of a hydrogen fuel industry in Alaska.

Hawaii has already established a similar commission in preparation for potentially using their geothermal energy resource for producing hydrogen for dispersal throughout the Pacific Rim. If Alaska is going to remain competitive in the field of energy in the United States and throughout the world, we must prepare for the possibility that hydrogen will become a viable fuel.

House Bill 512 addresses this eventuality and establishes the structure necessary for the State of Alaska to accept funding for a hydrogen project in the state.