



# Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: <http://www.akrepublicans.org>

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**Sponsor:** Senator Lyda Green  
**Current Version:** SB 270 AM H  
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## Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 270

**Short Title:** Avalanche Awareness Month

**Summary:**

- Establishes November as Avalanche Awareness Month.

**Benefits:**

- Encouraging education about avalanche risks, responding to avalanches, and the use of appropriate equipment will reduce the incidence of avalanche-related fatalities.

**Background:**

Alaskans live, work and play on the edge of the wilderness. They spend twice as much time engaging in winter recreational activities as most other Americans. Many of the state's popular winter recreation areas are subject to avalanche danger. Many Alaskans are not properly educated or equipped to recognize and respond to avalanches. Alaska has the highest avalanche death rate per capita in the nation: more than 70 Alaskans have died in avalanches in Alaska since 1968, with 28 of those deaths occurring since 1999.