



# Senate Bill 1

“An act prohibiting the use of chokeholds by peace officers; and relating to justification of use of force by peace officers.”

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson

# National 8 Can't Wait Campaign

- We were inspired to model local legislation after the widely-recognized national 8 can't wait campaign:
  - Bans the use of chokeholds and strangleholds
  - Require de-escalation
  - Require warning before shooting
  - Require exhausting all alternatives before shooting
  - Duty to intervene (by officers that observe other officers violating practice standards)
  - Ban shooting at moving vehicles
  - Require a use of force continuum
  - Require comprehensive reporting (by officers each time they use force or threaten to use force)
- We recognize that the national campaign wouldn't fit the unique needs of Alaska, so we worked with various stakeholders to create a bill that was all encompassing

## Meeting w/ Stakeholders

- Throughout the process of drafting the bills, we met with and received recommendations from the following stakeholders:
  - NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives)
  - APDEA (Anchorage Police Department Employees Association)
  - APD (Anchorage Police Department)
  - PSEA (Public Safety Employees Association)

# Bill Objectives

- Prohibits peace officers from knowingly using a restraint that impedes another person's breathing or blood circulation that would likely cause a loss of consciousness
  - This includes carotid restraint, tracheal choke, and others that result in the aforementioned conditions.
- Chokeholds are permitted in situations where deadly force is authorized by law and policy of the entity that employs the officer.

# What Sort of Chokeholds Will be Prohibited

A Post survey of the nation's largest police departments use-of-force policies found that:



**71%**

Prohibit chokeholds



**68%**

Prohibit carotid holds

## Chokehold

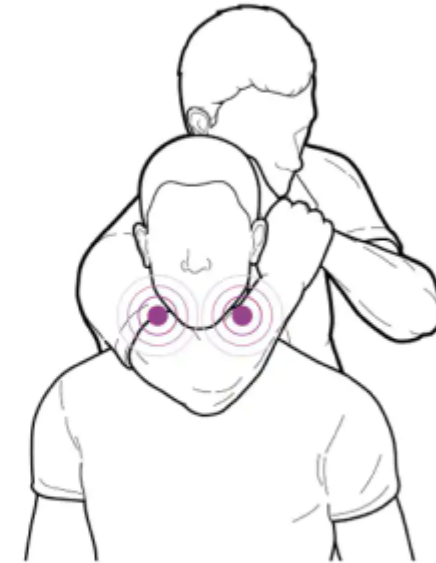
Also called an arm bar hold



Applies **pressure** to the trachea, restricting airways and stopping breathing

## Carotid hold

Vascular hold, sleeper hold or stranglehold



Applies **pressure** to the carotid arteries, restricting blood flow to the brain and causing loss of consciousness

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANTHONY CALVERT FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/national/police-use-of-force-chokehold-carotid-ban/>

# What We Know About the Bans on Chokeholds

- A Post survey of the 65 largest U.S. police departments found that 46 prohibit chokeholds in their use-of-force policies, while 44 prohibit carotid holds in those policies
  - Connecticut
  - California (San Diego, Los Angeles, etc.)
  - Florida (Broward County, Miami etc.)
  - New York
  - Washington (Seattle etc.)
  - Texas (Austin, Houston, Dallas etc.)
  - Illinois (Chicago etc.)
  - Colorado (Denver etc.)
  - Arizona (Phoenix etc.)
  - Delaware
  - Iowa

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/national/police-use-of-force-chokehold-carotid-ban/>  
<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/10/world/police-policies-neck-restraints-trnd/index.html>



# Thank You

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson