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**Alaska State Legislature  
REPRESENTATIVE REGGIE JOULE**

**Sponsor Statement**

CS HB 106

“An act relating to grants to nonprofit regional corporations, and, in certain situations, to municipalities with populations of less than 10,000, for village public safety officers in rural areas; defining ‘rural area’ for the purpose of the village public safety officer program; and authorizing municipalities to accept grants under, and contract with respect to, the village public safety officer program.”

The purpose of CS HB 106 is to provide flexibility in the implementation of the Village Public Safety Officer Program. Under the current law, regional nonprofit corporations receive grants to administer the Program; however, not all regional nonprofit corporations wish to do so. CS HB 106 would amend the law to provide the option for municipalities with fewer than 10,000 residents to administer the Program. This would not interfere with existing nonprofit implementation of the Program where the sentiment from effected communities is that the Program should be housed in the nonprofit. All Alaskans deserve to be safe and secure in their hometowns. This bill aims to make that possible in yet more villages.