

INTRODUCTION BY COMMISSIONER MASTERS  
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
CS FOR SENATE BILL 22

The Department of Public Safety is steadfast in its commitment to the Governor's goal of ending the epidemic of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual abuse in Alaska and I am honored to sit here with the Attorney General in introducing the CS for Senate Bill 22.

This legislation builds on this commitment by strengthening the investigative tools available to the Alaska State Troopers and other law enforcement agencies to apprehend the perpetrators of these and other related crimes.

Parts of the bill are highly useful to law enforcement as it:

- Provides law enforcement with additional investigative tools by broadening the authority investigators have to intercept communications in sex trafficking cases.

These crimes commonly require cooperation and communication among perpetrators, and if we have enough evidence to justify a wiretap, this bill would allow us to request judicial authorization to do so.

- It protects young people who are victims of sex trafficking or otherwise involved in prostitution, and strengthens the penalties on the demand side of sex trafficking, by requiring persons who prey on these victims to register as sex offenders.

- It provides additional protections for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- It allows victims of human trafficking, sex trafficking, and unlawful exploitation of a minor to apply for violent crimes compensation.
- Finally, this bill helps in the investigation of child pornography crimes, online enticement of a minor and unlawful exploitation of a minor by allowing the Attorney General (AG) to designate another attorney in his office to evaluate applications for an administrative subpoena to obtain business records from an Internet Service Provider.

The investigation of these crimes often requires quick action by law enforcement. Under current law, only the AG himself can approve them.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce the CS for SB 22 to the Senate Finance Committee, and we urge your support of this important legislation.