

HOUSE BILL NO. 138

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES SPOHNHOLZ, Westlake, Tuck, Gara, Fansler, Grenn, Tarr, Pruitt

Introduced: 2/22/17

Referred: Health and Social Services, Community and Regional Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing the month of March as Sobriety Awareness Month."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
4 to read:

5 **LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.** (a) In establishing Sobriety Awareness
6 Month, it is the intent of the legislature to call attention to Alaskans who choose a positive
7 and healthy lifestyle by not consuming mood- or mind-altering substances, and who, by virtue
8 of their freely chosen lifestyle, serve as examples that life can be lived and enjoyed without
9 the consumption of mood- or mind-altering substances.

10 (b) The legislature finds that a life without the consumption of mood- or mind-
11 altering substances

12 (1) improves the quality of life and the health of individuals, families, and
13 communities;

14 (2) reduces the incidence of alcohol- or drug-related social ills, including
15 crime, domestic violence, and child abuse and neglect;

(3) reduces the burden on local, state, and federal treasuries that pay for the pervasive social ills caused by alcohol and drug abuse;

3 (4) assists the state in identifying health benchmarks and measuring outcomes
4 associated with that lifestyle; those benchmarks and outcomes are monitored in the Healthy
5 Alaskans 2020 Health Assessment;

6 (5) assists the state in complying with the declaration of policy under
7 AS 47.37.010.

8 * Sec. 2. AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to article 2 to read: