



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Education
& Early Development**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
PO Box 110500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500
Main: 907.465.2800
TTY/TDD: 907.465.2815
Fax 907.465.4156

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Dear Senate Education Committee:

House Bill 214, which renames the AS 14.30.356 portion of the Alaska Safe Children's Act as Bree's Law, and calls for district developed programs and activities undertaken and implemented to be called Bree's Law programs and Bree's Law activities, provides an opportunity to personalize one of our state's challenges.

Breanna "Bree" Moore was a young woman born and raised in Alaska, graduated from Dimond High School, and was a student at the University of Alaska Anchorage. She was a student athlete and took full advantage of all that Alaska has to offer. She was 20 years old when her life was cut tragically short by her boyfriend.

Adolescence is a time to help youth develop attitudes and beliefs that dating violence is unacceptable and develop healthy relationship skills that will help reduce the rates of violence in our state. The Department of Education is supportive of HB 214's proposal to put an Alaskan name and face to the issue of dating/domestic violence.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Johnson
Commissioner