

From: Chuck Bickley
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#); [Self](#)
Subject: Testimony on Senate Bill 127 -- to repeal Senate Bill 91
Date: Sunday, April 15, 2018 6:52:12 PM

To Senate Finance Committee:

Friday 13 April, 2018 there was another shooting in Anchorage. Luckily the lady was not injured or worse yet murdered. When reviewing SB 91 please look at APD Case # 18-14743 and try to tell this lady she is safe in Anchorage. SB 91 was not only a "Catch and Release Bill" but seems to have given all the perps the idea they can shoot whoever, wherever and whenever they feel like it. They are released almost immediately even after a gun crime. Since all the input on SB 91 has not been listened to so far I, believe that many in the legislature supporting SB 91 will be looking for jobs when you listen to the results of the November elections.

When I came up in 1973 Alaska had a saying, "We don't care how they do it outside". We could leave our doors unlocked and our cars running with no concerns. Our schools seemed to be highly rated against other states with many students arriving for "outside" having to take remedial classes.

Now it seems that the state and Anchorage have to jump on the lower "48" bandwagon, on new ideas, before the team is even hitched up. Based on your listening to organizations like the Pew Foundation and other brain trusts we wind up with criminals running the system, SB 91. These organizations seem to promote an agenda of removing our freedoms in favor of the so called rights of those who prey on us. Channel 11, on 4/12/2018, presented a feature regarding "catch and release" where the criminals were laughing at the system and how easy it was to beat it. A statement was made on this program that we are the only state with catch and release.

Pretrial Enforcement Division says we are safer with their actions under this bill. When I look at the repeats, number of re-arrests, and increase in car thefts this is hard to believe. I certainly don't feel safer and have had friends personally impacted by crime. The reports of crime in the news media seems to be continuing to rise. When you look on the Court View site at some of those arrested they have more than one page of entries.

Our school ratings can't go much lower, school costs are escalating and some in legislature want to throw more money at it. Use some money to have an unbiased study on the management and funding of our school systems. We would be better served if you gave that money to parents for homeschooling.

Our state employees are highly overpaid by comparison's with other states and the number of employees per capita are way out of scale with other states. Look at the 1000 or so state employees who are paid between \$186,000 and \$754,000. I dare say any budgeting homeowner would be able to shave millions off the cost of government salaries and still leave most highly overpaid when compared with salaries elsewhere. I am sure you find your salaries paltry when compared to many positions in state government with much less stress and responsibility than you have. Alaska Policy Forum has a study on their site showing that between 2004 and 2014, state COLA and Longevity results showed a 63% increase in hourly wage. How many of you can claim that same increase

in that time frame? I know very few in my group of acquaintances who have, and a large number who have taken wage and benefit cuts.

I would urge all of you to take a hard look at these issues and facts and using a lot more data you have available, ask yourselves if you are truly serving your constituents in these and other issues before you gavel out. Surely you can do better and have a much better record to stand on when you run for your next re-election.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. You can make Alaska a much better state if you put your hearts in that direction.

Sincerely, Chuck Bickley Wasilla , 99623(I know, another Mat Su Borough individual not getting off the bench to support moderated Republican principles!)