

Member

Standing Committees:

Judiciary
State Affairs
Transportation

Finance Subcommittees:

Transportation
Courts
Law

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

House District 20

Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)

House Minority Assistant Floor Leader

Interim:

716 W 4th Avenue, Rm 350
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2133
Phone: (907) 269-0123
Fax: (907) 269-0124

Session:

Alaska State Capitol, Rm 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-4940
Toll Free: (866) 465-4940
Fax: (907) 465-3766

Email:

Rep.Max.Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 289 - EXECUTIVE ETHICS: LEGAL FEES/FAMILY TRAVEL

HB 289 sets forth in statute the substance of the Attorney General's proposed regulations establishing standards for (1) reimbursement of legal fees and costs for any executive branch employees accused of ethical violations, and (2) payment of travel expenses for the families of only the governor and lieutenant governor. It also cures several potential problems in the proposed regulations to (1) require that the employee be *exonerated* of the charges to attain reimbursement, (2) limit reimbursement to charges filed *after* the effective date of the Act (to clarify that reimbursement cannot be claimed by officials charged before this Act passed), and (3) require that the attorneys fees be reasonable in amount and reasonably incurred. The rules are carefully drafted to limit the circumstances under which family members of the governor and lieutenant governor can recover their travel costs.

Any questions? Please contact my legislative aide, Gretchen Staff, at 465-4940.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 289.