Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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Representative Harry Crawford District 21

SPONSOR STATEMENT: CS for HOUSE BILL HB 283

HB 283 amends the current law concerning people who are restricted from the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages. The bill adds people who commit crimes where alcohol contributed to the commission of the crime.

The bill will allow a court to restrict people, who are convicted of a felony or a third misdemeanor, from consuming and purchasing alcohol. These persons will be required to have an alcohol restricted drivers license or ID. It also restricts a person from purchasing alcohol for someone who is restricted from consuming. The bill further prevents a person who has been restricted from consuming alcohol from misrepresenting themselves as being able to purchase and consume alcohol.

The Bill will also prevent a person who was issued a youth drivers license or ID from purchasing alcohol. The youth driver's licenses and identification cards are vertically oriented documents. This change will make it simple for a licensee or their employees to determine the correct documentation for purchasing alcohol.

According to the Department of Corrections over 90% of the crimes that are committed in Alaska are either directly or indirectly related to the consumption of alcohol or drugs. This bill will help prevent the people that are committing these crimes from purchasing and consuming alcohol. I believe this will provide additional tools to keep the problem drinkers from purchasing alcohol.