



Public Safety Employees Association, Inc.
"Representing Alaska's Finest"
A.F.S.C.M.E. Local 83



Alaska Senate
Chairman Wielechowski
State Affairs Committee

February 24, 2012

Dear Senator Wielechowski,

I am employed as a Court Services Officer (CSO) with the Alaska State Troopers. I wish to take this opportunity to request your support of SB198. The passage of this legislation would require that CSO's be certified by the Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC) and standardize the training which CSO's receive. Passage of this legislation would greatly enhance the professionalism of the officers serving the State of Alaska court system and increase the accountability of individual officer performance.

Sincerely,

Thomas Robson

Phone: (907) 243-4440



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Alaska Senate
Chairman Wielechowski
State Affairs Committee

February 24, 2012

Dear Senator Wielechowski,

My name is Charles Taylor. I am employed as a Court Services Officer (CSO) with the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska State Troopers, and I am stationed in Kenai. I ask you to support SB198 both in Committee and on the Floor in its entirety and specifically, as it applies to CSO's (SB 198; Section 4). Alaska Statutes currently require that peace officers be certified. However, there is currently no requirement that CSO's be certified. This bill will correct the issue consistent with current law.

Additionally, I view SB198 as a simple and inexpensive fix that protects the State and its resources. In my employment I am uniformed and equipped similar to State Troopers. Consequently, citizens often mistake me as an Alaska State Trooper. Unlike Troopers, the approximately 60 Court Services Officers serve without any type of State-recognized certification. Without formal recognition of training and qualifications through certification, the State of Alaska may be open to greater liability arising out of actions performed by CSO's. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charles Taylor

Phone: (907) 252-7356

Dear Senator Wielechowski:

On behalf of the Juneau Police Department employees represented by PSEA, I wish to express our support for Senate Bill 198. SB 198 will improve the quality of police officers protecting Alaskans by strengthening due process, elevating standards, and providing more tools at the Alaska Police Standards Council. This legislation improves this regulatory body and by doing so improves the quality of police officers in Alaska.

My thanks go out to you and the Senate State Affairs Committee for introducing this important legislation.

Lee Phelps

Vice President for the Juneau PSEA chapter/Police Officer
Juneau Police Department
6255 Alaway Ave
Juneau, AK 99801
907-500-0648

Dear Senator Wielechowski,

I am writing in support of SB198 and ask you to support this bill both in Committee and on the Floor. As an Alaska State Trooper who works regularly with Court Services Officers (CSO), I am concerned with the fact that CSO's are currently serving without any type of State-recognized (APSC) certification. Requiring certification for this position will provide consistent job requirements and increased avenues for accountability on the job. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rob Cox
(907) 350-4656



Public Safety Employees Association, Inc.
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February 29, 2012

Dear Senator Wielechowski:

On behalf of the Soldotna Police Department employees represented by PSEA, I wish to express our support for Senate Bill 198. SB 198 will improve the quality of police officers protecting Alaskans by strengthening due process, elevating standards, and providing more tools at the Alaska Police Standards Council. This legislation improves this regulatory body and by doing so improves the quality of police officers in Alaska.

My thanks go out to you and the Senate State Affairs Committee for introducing this important legislation.

Rory L. Espy
President
Soldotna Police Bargaining Unit