

Alaska State Legislature

Interim:

50 Front Street, Suite 203
Ketchikan, AK 99901
Phone: (907) 247-4672
Fax: (907) 225-7157



Session:

State Capitol, Room 114
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-3424
Fax: (907) 465-3793

Representative Kyle Johansen House District 1

HB 153 – "An Act relating to the scheduling and rescheduling of certain substances as controlled substances."

HB 153 updates and strengthens Alaska's anti-drug laws. Specifically, this legislation adds **Salvia divinorum (Salvinorin A)** to the list of Schedule IIA drugs, and moves **buprenorphine** from a Schedule VA up to a Schedule IIIA drug.

Salvia is a [psychoactive](#) plant which can induce [dissociative](#) effects and is a potent producer of "visions" and other hallucinatory experiences. It is banned in several countries and 24 states as of September 2010. The classification of Salvia as a Schedule IIA drug places it in the same group as other hallucinogens.

Buprenorphine is a semi-synthetic opioid that, like methadone, is used to treat opioid addiction in higher dosages and to control moderate pain in non-opioid tolerant individuals in lower dosages. Like methadone and other opioids, its use as a recreational drug can lead to dependence. The reclassification of this drug as a Schedule IIIA will place it in a group that has a higher potential for abuse and will increase enforceability against violators.

These proposed changes to statute make these substances harder to obtain and abuse for recreational purposes. The reclassification creates or increases the penalties for their abuse, creating additional deterrents.