

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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## Sponsor Statement

### HB 303 Relating to Suspended Imposition of Certain Criminal Offences

#### Removing a Discharged Conviction: A Jobs and Fairness Issue

There is currently an anomaly under Alaska law. If you commit a lesser, non-violent, non-sexual crime; otherwise have a clean record; show good evidence that you won't commit another crime; and go through probation cleanly; in rare cases a judge will, under current law, remove your conviction. We don't change that law at all by this legislation.

However, it is unclear under Alaska law whether a person, such as a minor who had one Minor Consuming conviction, can state on a job application that they have never been convicted of a crime. If they say they have, of course, their job prospects are harmed.

HB 303 says that if your conviction is removed, you should be allowed to say you have not been convicted of a crime on things like job applications. This will give people who have done little wrong in life the chance to succeed in school and our economy, by not having to jeopardize employment, or admittance, based on a conviction that does not exist.

Feel free to call with any questions. Thank you.