

February 19, 2014

The Honorable Senator Dyson
State Capitol, Room 121
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Senate Bill, 104 Appropriations from the Dividend Fund.

I write on behalf of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board in support of Senate Bill 104.

In 1988, the Legislature passed a law making certain convicted criminals ineligible for a dividend. The intent was that those funds should be used for the primary purpose of helping restore victims of crime to a pre-offense condition. Senate Bill 104 will ensure that intent is realized; by establishing a criminal fund into which the withheld dividends are appropriated, and then appropriating from that criminal fund to specified recipients, with the crime victim compensation fund administered by the Violent Crimes Compensation Board being the first in priority order, this Bill establishes a reliable funding source for the work of this Board, and makes compensation to victims of violent crime a priority in the State of Alaska.

Thank you for your continued support and for working to ensure that victims come first in Alaska.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gerad Godfrey", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gerad Godfrey
Chair, Violent Crimes Compensation Board