

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## REPRESENTATIVE LANCE PRUITT HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

### Sponsor Statement

#### HB 366

***An Act relating to reporting an involuntary mental health commitment to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System; and relating to relief from disabilities of a record of involuntary commitment and an adjudication of mental illness or mental incompetence.***

HB 366 pertains to the transmittal of information from the Alaska Court System to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993 established the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, a database designed to provide information to Federal Firearms Licensees regarding persons who are prohibited from possessing a firearm under Section 922 (g) or (n) of Title 18 USC.

Alaska upholds a steadfast tradition of responsible firearm ownership. A fundamental component of this responsibility is the assurance that retailers will have access to timely and relevant information in the NICS database.

Currently, the State of Alaska does not require the courts to transmit these records. This places the Federal Firearms Licensees at a greater risk of selling a firearm to an individual who may pose a risk to themselves or others.

House Bill 366 works with the courts to establish a system to transfer the limited necessary information with the NICS administrators regarding persons who are adjudicated in Alaska courts as unfit to possess a firearm due to mental health reasons.