



SENATOR DENNIS EGAN

SB 116 - Citations

Sponsor Statement

SB 116 fixes an unintended problem with Alaska law that made law enforcement less effective and less fair when it comes to minor offenses. For decades, parking tickets have been left under windshield wipers. A 2010 bill on citations inadvertently ended that practice by requiring all citations to be “personally served.”

That’s a problem for Alaska cities that need to enforce parking and other rules. Taxpayers shouldn’t be burdened with paying enough parking and animal control officers to stake out cars and front yards when the law is broken in minor ways.

Since the Alaska Court System implemented the law in 2013, some Alaska cities have used workarounds that are more expensive to administer and effectively deny Alaskans who need to fight a ticket their day in court.

SB 116 lets law enforcement leave a ticket on the real or personal property that is the subject of an infraction or violation. It also allows service by the same methods as civil process, including certified mail with a return receipt or a process server. The bill still requires personal service by the officer for moving violations, minor consuming, or anything more serious than an infraction.

SB 116 provides more efficient government for Alaskans and gives those who need to fight a ticket fair access to the courts.

ALASKA SENATE

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