ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY WILSON HOUSE DISTRICT 33

SPONSOR STATEMENT CS House Bill 108 Version P

"An Act relating to electronic citations; creating the electronic citations fund; and providing for an effective date."

HB 108 will help bring Alaska State Troopers and City or Municipality Police departments to the 21st century by establishing an e-citation fund. Currently, many tickets are written on paper citations with some departments choosing to use electronic citation devices and software (funded by Federal grants) in lieu of paper.

By using e-citation devices, the process of writing a ticket can be decreased from 20 minutes to about 5 minutes. These devices will also help stream line the court process, by eliminating the time required for court personnel to scan paper tickets and information into their system. This can take as long as 12 days, as opposed to instantly happening on the side of the road. HB 108:

- Increases the Department of Public Safety surcharge on a minor offense
- The new surcharge will be put into an 'Electronic Citation Fund' which will be managed by the Department of Public Safety
- Money in the fund will be used to purchase hand-held equipment for officers to use in issuing citations and transmitting them to the courts. The Department of Public Safety will also maintain the software and hardware necessary to facilitate the electronic filing of the citations
- Provides a dependable revenue stream for a voluntary state-wide e-citations program
- Without this legislation, current e-citations programs around the state depend on Federal grant revenue, which is unpredictable, unreliable, and drying up
- Has support from DPS, State Troopers, and municipalities from around the state