

Representative Kertula - My name is David Wrightson. I am currently employed by the Juneau Police Department and have been for 18 years and 5 months. I served my country in the Marine Corps prior to that. I was a member of the Marine Corps first Fleet Anti Terrorist Security Team (FAST) and participated in various classified missions as a FAST member. I participated in the lead up and prep stages for the invasion of Panama and I fought in the first Gulf War as a part of the lead, or spearhead element for the 2nd Marine Division. I have lived in Juneau since April of 1991 with my wife Angie and we have raised two sons here.

HB 1116 has been introduced by Rep. Charisse Millett and will benefit all of Alaska's Tier II and III law enforcement employees who have purchased service credits. As of today there are approximately 235 employees who fall into this category.

This bill carries no fiscal note for the State of Alaska. On the contrary, it may allow the State of Alaska, along with municipalities, to free themselves of employees who are on the highest end of the pay scale and replace them with new hires at the bottom end of the pay scale. In 19 months I will be one of those employees with 20 years on and at the top of the pay scale. I purchased my military credits as soon as I was vested at year 5. I love my job, but policing is a young man's job unless you opt to be a desk jockey, and that's just not me! I have watched younger men get broken all around me while doing this job and I knock on wood that I have remained in fact, to some degree. I have my aches and pains due to the gear we have to wear. I work side by side with officers that are younger than one of my sons. It's no easy task sometimes. I like most others in my position, I will not be able to stop working after I "retire" from the Juneau Police Department. The pension simply won't do it, and that's fine. I'm appreciative of what it \*will\* offer. But I would like to start working on a second career as soon as possible, so I \*can\* actually "retire" one day.

HB116 will allow me to start a new, hopefully safer adventure sooner than later and it will save the CBJ money at the same time.

I would ask that you co-sponsor the HB116 and show support for those who served their country and have also chosen to serve their communities for 20 years.

HB 116 is scheduled for hearing in the House Labor and Commerce committee on March 20, 2013, at 3:15 p.m. It would be nice if our local Representative here in Juneau were signed on as co-sponsors.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

David Wrightson