



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of Corrections

Office of the Commissioner

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February 1, 2013

The Honorable Alan Austerman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Rm 505
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Bill Stoltze
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Rm 515
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representatives Austerman and Stoltze,

On January 23, 2012, the Department of Corrections (DOC) presented its budget overview to the House Finance Committee. During this meeting questions were raised which required follow-up answers.

Representative Austerman asked how Alaska's offender trends compared with national trends. Currently, Alaska offender population is trending nonviolent and our female inmate population is growing. Both of these trends are consistent with those found nationwide. Further, from 2009-2011 Alaska's inmate population increased at a rate of 2.8% per year while nationwide numbers show a slight decrease in inmate populations.

Representative Holmes asked how many inmates were waitlisted last year for treatment programs.

In FY12 only two programs were unable to serve all of the inmates who wanted to participate. Both the Life Success Substance Abuse Treatment Program (LSSAT) and Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program (RSAT) had waitlists of 171 and 209 respectively.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide your committee with these answers and look forward to working with you this session. If you have additional questions, or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Schmidt', with a stylized, cursive script.

Joseph Schmidt
Commissioner