

JUSTICE INVESTIGATIONS

justicedefenseinvestigations@gmail.com

(907) 854-1681

February 23, 2015

Honorable Representatives
Labor and Commerce Committee
2015 Legislative Session

Subject: HB 9

Honorable Representatives:

Thank you for your service to our state and your respective communities. Thank you in advance for reading this note.

As a professional investigator in Alaska, I write with deep concern for the passage of HB9. My understanding is that the Palmer representative's office crafted the bill based on an isolated incidence where an out-of-state predator impersonated a private investigator to bilk money out of an Anchorage family who was in the middle of a tragedy.

Although, I appreciate the intent, I respectfully submit that the Palmer representative's office is misguided and relies on faulty information.

MY STORY

I live, work and raise my family in this community. I have worked as a professional investigator for eleven years, eight years as a private investigator doing business as Justice Investigations. I have a current state business license, private detective license from the Municipality of Anchorage and a pending renewal on my Fairbanks license. I carry a two million dollar Errors and Omission insurance policy and a one million dollar umbrella policy on my vehicle. My work includes federal and state criminal defense and insurance defense including, but not limited to: fire/arson, theft, burglary, personal injury and other forms of alleged fraud. I am subject to the same laws, ethics and standards that govern attorneys and insurance companies. I am also subject to Alaska Consumer Protection laws, the civil courts, and word of mouth. How much more protection can HB9 offer?

JUST A FEW CONCERNS

1. I will not be able to afford the cost of the license.
2. I will not be able to pass the cost of the license on to out-of-state consumers because they will qualify for reciprocity under section 08.85.200. and will bring up their employees who earn \$16 per hour.
3. The administrative tasks involved with getting and maintaining licensure will be extremely time consuming.

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4. The exemptions under section 08.85.300 are unfair, demonstrate bias and are not well thought out. For example, exempting Origin and Cause fire/arson investigators from licensure demonstrates bias. Exempting attorneys is not well thought out. Attorneys do not investigate because it may place them in a position to be a witness.

CONCLUSION

As it is written, HB9 does not offer protection; it is not a well-crafted bill.

I respectfully request that do not pass HB9.

Sincerely,

Dena Boughton