ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Mike Dunleavy Senator

Explanation of Amendment A.1 to Senate Bill 191

With the clarifications in this amendment, Senate Bill 191 maintains that a captive audience of students should not be subject to presentations by abortion services providers during school hours.

1) Page 3, line 26, following "representative": Insert "acting on behalf"

Previously the language stated that any employee or representative of an abortion services provider may not deliver material or instruction to students. This change will clarify that a representative must be acting on behalf of an abortion services provider to violate the law. This should resolve concerns that the language was too broad and would reach beyond a teachers professional duties.

2) Page 3, lines 28 - 29:

Delete "any topic to students at a public school" Insert "any health topic, including human sexuality or family planning, to students at a public school during the hours the school is in session"

This change will narrow the prohibition on topics that an abortion provider or affiliate may teach to health and human sexuality. With the proposed amendment the language would be in line with law in both Louisiana and Missouri. Neither of the laws in these states have resulted in a lawsuit as it is well settled that States have the authority to govern public schools.

In addition, this amendment will address the concerns we have heard regarding an individual's associations outside the school by clearly stating that the language in the bill relates only to the hours that a school is in session.

 Page 4, line 12, following "representative": Insert "acting on behalf of the abortion services provider or affiliate"

This portion of the amendment again brings clarity that an individual must be acting on behalf of the abortion services provider or affiliate to be in violation of the proposed law.