STATE CAPITOL P.O. Box 110001 Juneau, AK 99811-0001 907-465-3500 fax: 907-465-3532



550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1700 Anchorage, AK 99501 907-269-7450 fax 907-269-7461 www.Gov.Alaska.Gov Governor@Alaska.Gov

January 18, 2016

The Honorable Mike Chenault Speaker of the House Alaska State Legislature State Capitol, Room 208 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Chenault:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill adding the Commissioner of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to the membership of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

The purpose of the council is to provide for planning and coordination of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault or to their families and to perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault and to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs. Since domestic violence pervades all sectors of our society, including our military forces, the input of a person with an understanding of the challenges those in the military face would assist the council's work. With this change, we will continue to work together to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault in this state.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

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Sincerely,

Bill Walker Governor

Enclosure