

# ALASKA LEGISLATURE

## *Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins*

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## **HB 347 – Recovery of False Claims for State Funds**

### **Sponsor Statement**

The Alaska False Claims Act, HB 347, gives private citizens the ability to fight false or fraudulent claims for state money. Private citizens who become aware of someone making false claims for tax benefits, Medicaid reimbursement, or other state or municipal resources can take a case to court. If the case is won, the citizen who identified the fraud goes home with some of the proceeds.

The Alaska False Claims Act brings to Alaska a good idea that at least 29 other states and the federal government have implemented. The federal false claims act has resulted in \$39 billion in settlements and judgements since 1986, with \$4 billion of that going to private citizens who identified the fraud.

The Alaska False Claims Act provides Alaska a powerful tool to fight fraudulent use of government money by giving individual Alaskans greater ability to bring that fraud to light.