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REPRESENTATIVE DAVE TALERICO

Sectional Analysis – House Bill 236

“An Act relating to marriage solemnization.”

Sec. 1 – AS 25.05.261

Creates the following new subsections to amend AS 25.05.261:

- (c) Creates a new subsection to ensure that there is no duty for a minister, priest, rabbi, principal church or congregation officer, or any other religious organization to solemnize a marriage, or to provide any services related to the solemnization or celebration of a marriage.
- (d) Creates a new subsection that allows a religious minister, officer, or religious organization to be free from criminal or civil liability if they refuse to solemnize a marriage or provide any service related to the solemnization or celebration of a marriage.
- (e) Creates a new subsection that prohibits the state or a municipality from penalizing a religious minister, officer, or religious organization if they refuse to solemnize a marriage or provide any service related to the solemnization or celebration of a marriage. To penalize is to take an action affecting a benefit or privilege guaranteed to the person by law, such as tax exemptions or state or municipal contracts, grants, or licenses.

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