

**From:** [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Cc:** [Juli Lucky](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SB 54 R  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 1:48:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

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**From:** Helander, Ken [mailto:khelander@aarp.org]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 1:44 PM

**To:** Sen. Anna MacKinnon <Sen.Anna.MacKinnon@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Peter Micciche <Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. Mike Dunleavy <Sen.Mike.Dunleavy@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>; Sen. Donny Olson <Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** SB 54 R

AARP Alaska is concerned that Version R of SB 54 contains changes that would weaken the goals of last year's SB 91, which we believe would reduce crime, reduce recidivism, and save state money on prison costs. In particular

- The reforms of SB 91 are based on recommendations by the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission. Similar reforms passed in other states have shown to reduce crime, reduce state spending on police, courts, prisons, and emergency community services, and increase the likelihood of rehabilitation for individuals involved in the justice system.
- Some of the proposed changes in SB 54 version R increase potential jail time for certain offenses which will therefore increase criminal justice costs to the State with no guarantees to reduce criminal recidivism.
- SB 91 has only been in effect for 8 months and has not had time to see its full effects. Please give these reforms a chance before rolling them back.

The last point is most important....statutory changes like those embodied in SB 91 need adequate time to work. Knee-jerk changes only create confusion, unpredictability, and don't allow for accumulation of real evidence. Please reconsider the changes, and allow the crime bill to mature and take full effect.

Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Ken  
Helander

**Ken Helander**  
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