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CSSB 34 Probation and Parole Explanation of Changes

Section 2: Adds language clarifying how long a person may be imprisoned for willingly not paying a fine. Fully restores the language in this section to what it was before SB 91 was enacted.

Section 4: Adds the requirement that the Department of Corrections consult with the Department of Law and the Department of Public Safety when developing a program allowing probationers to earn credits for complying with their conditions of probation.

Section 6: Restores language deleted in the prior version of the bill pertaining to the requirement that probation officers keep accurate records of money collected from probationers.

Section 8: Clarifies that a person who is ineligible for a good time deduction from their sentence is also ineligible for consideration for discretionary parole. Also makes certain offenses, which were ineligible for discretionary parole before SB 91, once again ineligible for discretionary parole. Also reorganizes AS 33.16.090.

Section 9: Makes those who are convicted of an unclassified offense (murder, kidnapping) ineligible for discretionary parole until the person has served one-half of the active term of imprisonment or the mandatory minimum whichever is greater. Also makes those individuals convicted of B felony level drug distribution eligible for discretionary parole after serving one-half of the active term of imprisonment. Under current law, those offenders are eligible after serving one-fourth of the active term of imprisonment.

Section 13: Returns application procedures for discretionary parole to what they were before SB 91.

Section 16: Allows the parole board to toll time while the parolee is in violation status. This is similar to how probation works when a probationer is in violation status. Under

this provision, the parolee's parole time will not continue to run while the parole violation is under consideration by the parole board.