



Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police
PO Box 3734
Seward, Alaska 99664
www.aacop.org

February 23, 2021

The Honorable Senator Gray-Jackson
The Honorable Senator Begich
Alaska Senate

Dear Senator Gray-Jackson and Senator Begich,

On behalf of the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP), I am writing to convey our opposition of SB46, "An Act relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council; relating to municipal correctional officers and municipal correctional employees; making municipal police officers subject to police standards; establishing a statewide use-of-force database in the Department of Public Safety; requiring a municipality that employs a person as a municipal police officer or in a municipal correctional facility, the Department of Corrections, or the Department of Public Safety to report for inclusion in the database incidents of use of force by state and municipal police, probation, parole, and correctional officers and municipal correctional facility employees; and providing for an effective date."

The AACOP board of directors recently reviewed this bill and unanimously oppose as written.

Section 1. Purposed amendment to AS 18.65.220.

(b) We are opposed to this. This should be managed within an agencies policies and procedures and not governed by regulation of an outside entity.

(c) Not opposed to this section.

(d) We are opposed to this. This should be managed within each agency and the Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC) without involving the legislature.

(e) As we are opposed to (b) this would be moot.

Section 2. Purposed amendments to AS 18.65.285. No comment

Section 3. Purposed amendments to AS 18.65.290(6). No comment

Section 4. Purposed amendments to AS 18.65.290. No comment



Steve Dutra, President; Ed Mercer, Vice President; Greg Russell, Secretary; Tim Putney, Treasurer; Pete Mlynarik, Board Member; Robert Baty, Board Member; Ken McCoy, Board Member, RJ Ely Board Member, Steve Adams, Board Member.



Section 5. Purposed amendments to AS 18.65.670. No comment

Section 6. Purposed amendments to AS 29.71.070. We oppose this. Use of force data-bases should be kept under the supervision and control of individual agencies. There are many different facets of use of force that are categorized and interpreted uniquely by each agency. Dumping into one repository without any nuances would leave it open to misinterpretation. We would propose that each agency be required to maintain a use of force data base but not be required to report to a state wide data base.

Section 7. Purposed amendments to AS 44.28.020. No comment.

Section 8. Purposed amendments to AS 44.41.020. Opposed as stated in the comments in Section 6.

Section 9. Purposed amendments to AS 44.41.055. We are opposed as written as stated in the comments in Section 6. If our proposal in Section 6 were accepted this section would require agencies to collect the following data to include in a use of force report: Age, gender, and race of the subject on which force is used, and type of force used.

Section 10. Purposed repeal of AS 18.65.280(b). We are opposed to this. Agencies should have the ability and right to establish their own training programs as long as it is consistent with APSC regulations.

Section 11. Purposed amendments to AS 18.65.285. We are opposed (see Section 10).

Section 12. Transition Employment. We are opposed (see Section 10).

Section 13. Transition Regulations. We are opposed (see Section 10).

If you wish to ask more questions, please feel free to contact us at your earliest convenience and we would be happy to share our thoughts. Our Executive Director, Amanda Jacobs can be reached at AACOP@AACOP.ORG or feel free to call me at 907-488-8469.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Chief Steve Dutra
President, Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police