

# REPRESENTATIVE GARRET NELSON

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE DISTRICT 29

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## House Bill 3 Sponsor Statement

*“An Act relating to convening the legislature in Anchorage; relating to the regulation of lobbying; relating to annual student guests of the legislature; relating to locations of sessions of the legislature; relating to the Legislative Ethics Act; relating to the relocation of functions of state government; and providing for an effective date.”*

House Bill 3 would bring the legislative session to a place where most Alaskans could participate. Currently, with the legislative session being held in Juneau, it is incredibly expensive for a constituent to participate in person. While there are options to view meetings online, moving the legislative session to Anchorage would provide Alaskans with a way to participate in the legislative process in person, like is done in most states.

In addition to making sessions more accessible to Alaskans, moving the legislative session to Anchorage would also help reduce the huge cost involved in moving all 60 legislators and staff to and from Juneau each year. Furthermore, with the session being held in Anchorage, a good portion of those legislators and staff would also not require housing. House bill 3 will help to bring down the cost of legislative session while giving the public an opportunity to participate in the legislative process without having to spend large amounts of money.

If you have additional questions, please contact my office @ 907-465-6600