



## SB 236 Veterans Justice Act

### Sectional Analysis

**Section 1.** Establishes that an arresting officer shall ask a detained person about their veteran status.

**Section 2.** Adds subsection to the bail and release procedure statute requiring the court to inform a person of the veteran sentencing program option.

**Section 3.** Authorizes the court to set aside a conviction or reduce a felony to a misdemeanor under the veterans sentencing program.

**Section 4.** Establishes the veteran sentencing program in the sentencing and probation chapter of the code of criminal procedure.

- (a) Authorizes the court to proceed with sentencing a qualified offender under the veterans sentencing program.
- (b) Establishes that a veteran is eligible for the veteran sentencing program if one or more mental or physical symptoms derived from military service have contributed to the offense.
- (c) Allows the court to determine an offender ineligible for the veteran sentencing program if they present a threat to public safety.
- (d) Establishes options for sentencing under the veteran sentencing program.
- (e) Requires the court to establish the conditions for a veteran's participation in the program and conduct a final hearing to determine successful completion.
- (f) Authorizes the court, upon successful completion of the program, to set aside, reduce, or expunge the conviction.
- (g) Establishes that trauma unrelated to military service cannot be used to deny the existence of a condition resulting from military service.
- (h) Defines terms utilized in the veterans sentencing program.

**Section 5.** Establishes a veteran's overseas deployment, exposure to danger, a service-related disability, or a service-related merit as a mitigating factor in sentencing.



## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senator Löki Gale Tobin  
*Education Committee Chair*

EDUCATION  
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES  
JUDICIARY  
TRANSPORTATION

**Section 6.** Requires the Alaska Criminal Justice Data Analysis Commission to track outcome data for those veterans who have participated in the veterans sentencing program and to conduct evaluations of the program.

**Section 7.** Establishes that, if enacted, the veterans sentencing program constitutes a court rule change at Rule 35 Reduction, Correction, or Suspension of Sentence and at Rule 43 Dismissal and Deferred Prosecution.

**Section 8.** Conditional effect stating that a two-third vote of the legislature is required to enact the court rule changes contained in the legislation.

**Section 9.** Effective date.

34-LS0095\G

2/13/2026

WHILE IN SESSION

State Capitol / Juneau, AK 99801 / (907) 465-3704

WHILE IN ANCHORAGE

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