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February 19, 2026

Chair Carrick and Members of the House State Affairs Committee:

My name is Sergeant Darrell Evans, and I serve as President of the Anchorage Police Department Employees Association (APDEA), representing the sworn officers and non-sworn employees of the Anchorage Police Department. On behalf of our dedicated and professional police officers, I respectfully urge you to oppose House Bill 250.

Our officers are committed to professionalism, accountability, and maintaining the public's trust. HB 250 would create a new class B misdemeanor offense for a peace officer who "knowingly conceals" their face with a mask while interacting with the public in their official capacity.

We heard testimony that "House Bill 250 is a Pro Law Enforcement piece of legislation," when it is anything but. House Bill 250 uses Alaska's law enforcement professionals to make a political statement regarding the current state of national events.

If the Legislature wishes to address standards related to identification or transparency, those concerns are more appropriately handled through the Alaska Police Standards Council, departmental policies, collective bargaining agreements, and administrative oversight—not by creating a new crime.

This legislation will negatively impact morale, recruitment, and retention at a time when law enforcement agencies across Alaska are already facing staffing challenges.

Our officers put their lives on the line every day to protect the community. They do so in the most professional and compassionate manner possible. They deserve clear guidance, strong leadership, and support. HB 250 does not provide any of these.

For these reasons, the Anchorage Police Department Employees Association respectfully urges you to oppose House Bill 250.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Darrell Evans

Sergeant Darrell Evans

President

Anchorage Police Department Employees Association (APDEA)