

# REPRESENTATIVE SARA HANNAN

## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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the Mendenhall Valley to  
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### Sectional Summary

#### CSHB 250(STA) Ver. G

#### Law Enforcement; Concealing One's Face

**Sec. 1:** Amends AS 11.56 by adding a new section—11.56.880—stating that a peace officer is in violation of the law if they conceal their face with a mask or disguise while interacting with the public in an official capacity.

This section also lists circumstances under which the law would not apply. They include:

- If the officer is on an undercover assignment
- If the officer is wearing a shield designed to protect their face from harm without obscuring their face
- If the officer is wearing a medical mask to protect against disease for infection or any other mask or device to protect against exposure to a toxin, gas, inclement weather, or another hazardous or harmful environmental condition
- If the officer is wearing a mask while outdoors when the temperature is at or below 32 degrees Fahrenheit
- If the officer is wearing a helmet while using a motorcycle or other vehicle that requires a helmet for safe operation
- If the officer is participating in a tactical operation for which protective gear is required for immediate physical safety
- If the officer is assigned to a special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team and is actively performing responsibilities of that team.

In this section, “tactical operation” is defined as a planned or emergent law enforcement activity involving the elevated risk of death or serious physical injury, specialized operational methods, or hazardous environmental conditions for which a peace officer's use of protective equipment that partially or fully covers the face is reasonably necessary for officer safety or mission execution and is not intended to conceal the officer's identity.

Section 1 also states that wearing a mask in public while acting as a peace officer is a class B misdemeanor (punishable by up to 90 days in jail and/or a fine of up to \$2000).

**Sec. 2:** Amends uncodified law to state that the act applies only to offenses committed on or after the effective date of the act.

**Sec. 3:** Provides an immediate effective date for the act.