

# REPRESENTATIVE JULIE COULOMBE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## Sectional Analysis

HB 77\ Ver. O (34-LS0144\O)

**"An Act making the theft of mail or an article within mail theft in the second degree."**

**Section 1:** Amends AS 11.46.130(a) to classify theft of mail or its contents as theft in the second degree (Class C felony), regardless of the monetary value of the item taken.

**Section 2:** Amends AS 11.46.130(b) to include definitions:

- Authorized depository
  - A mailbox, letterbox, post office box, or rural box used by postal customers for the deposit of outgoing mail or used by the USPS or private mail delivery company for the delivery of incoming mail.
- Juvenile detention facility
  - A secure facility for the detention of delinquent minors in the custody of the Department of Family and Community Services under AS 47.12.240 or 47.12.250
- Mail
  - Letter, card, parcel, or material that is in an authorized mail receptacle, in the care of a USPS or private delivery company, with postage affixed to it.
- Mail receptacle
  - Location used by USPS, a private mail delivery company, or a postal customer for the placement of incoming and outgoing mail.
- Postage
  - A USPS stamp, permit, imprint, meter strip, or other authorized indication of prepayment for services provided by USPS or private mail delivery services.

**Section 3:** Establishes an affirmative defense for employees of correctional, juvenile detention, or treatment facilities acting within the scope of their official duties, to prevent unintended criminal liability during lawful handling of mail.

**Section 4:** This bill does not take effect retroactively.