



THE STATE
of ALASKA
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April 13, 2026

Via email

The Honorable Neal Foster
Co-Chair House Finance Committee
Alaska State House of Representatives
Email: House.Finance.Legislation@akleg.gov

Re: Collateral Consequences of a Felony Conviction in Alaska in Response to HB 77.

Dear Co-Chair Foster:

During the March 27 hearing on House Bill 77 you asked about the various collateral consequences of a felony conviction. Specifically, you asked about firearm ownership and voting rights. There are several collateral consequences of having a felony conviction in Alaska. Among these are impacts to firearm ownership, voting rights, permanent fund dividend eligibility, and obtaining certain professional licenses.

Individuals with felony convictions are generally prohibited from owning firearms for 10 years following their unconditional discharge.¹ An individual who violates the firearm prohibition could be subject to additional criminal penalties in certain circumstances.² Additionally, if an individual is convicted of a “felony involving moral turpitude,”³ they are unable to vote until they are unconditionally discharged at which time they may register to vote.⁴⁵ Felonies involving moral turpitude also disqualify an individual from jury service until unconditional discharge.⁶

Felony convictions also impact a person’s eligibility for the permanent fund dividend. An individual is ineligible for the permanent fund dividend if “during the qualifying year, the individual was sentenced as a result of a conviction in this state of a felony” or during the qualifying year they were incarcerated for a felony.⁷

¹ AS 11.61.200(a)(b). More information about firearm eligibility is available on the Department of Public Safety’s Website: <https://dps.alaska.gov/statewide/r-i/permitslicensing/firearm-faq>.

² AS 11.61.200 prohibits a person with a felony conviction from possessing a firearm capable of being concealed on their person or residing in a dwelling where there is a concealable firearm (class C felony).

³ Felony level theft is a “felony involving moral turpitude under AS 15.80.010.

⁴ See AS 12.55.185 (18) (“unconditional discharge” means that a defendant is released from all disability arising under a sentence, including probation and parole).

⁵ 15.05.030.

⁶ AS 33.30.241.

⁷ AS 43.23.005(d). This money is accounted for and deposited into the restorative justice account under AS 43.23.048.

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Felony convictions may also impact a person's ability to obtain or maintain certain professional licenses including physical and occupational therapy,⁸ professional counseling,⁹ and social work.¹⁰ Notably a felony conviction does not always serve as a total prohibition to obtaining the professional license, but may be a factor considered in denying a person a license or in instituting disciplinary actions.¹¹

As outlined above, there are several collateral consequences of a felony conviction in Alaska. The consequences noted above are those that are specifically tied to statutes. There may be other social consequences which are not discussed here. Further, many of the statutory consequences are limited in duration as the date of unconditional discharge often marks the end or near end of the restriction.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Kaci Schroeder
Sr. Assistant Attorney General
Alaska Department of Law

⁸ AS 08.84.120(1)(3)

⁹ AS 08.29.400(2).

¹⁰ 12 AAC 18.140(a).

¹¹ *Id.* at 8.