

March 9, 2021

Representative Snyder, Representative Zulkosky, and members of the House Health and Social Services Committee,

My name is Sergeant Jeremy Conkling, and I am the President of the Anchorage Police Department Employees Association. In my capacity as President, I represent more than 570 members of the Anchorage Police Department.

I write today to express my support of HSCR 1 and my disapproval of Executive Order 119's potential negative impacts. The language in AS 12.25.031 which allows for police officers to use their discretion to take a person suffering from an acute behavioral health crisis to a crisis stabilization center in lieu of arresting them is necessary and fully supported by the APDEA. Additionally, I believe that statute will continue to encourage more resources becoming available to police officers to better assist the community when it is clear that jail is not the appropriate option.

I believe the language in EO 119 eliminating the definition of crisis stabilization center from AS 47.32.900 will have detrimental effects on the Anchorage community.

Respectfully submitted,



Sergeant Jeremy Conkling

APDEA President