

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001  
907-465-3500



550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1700  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907-269-7450

Governor Mike Dunleavy  
STATE OF ALASKA

January 24, 2025

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
Capitol Building, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to obstruction of access to public places.

Alaskans have a constitutional liberty interest in freely moving about the State. This bill will protect the right to freedom of movement against infringement by increasing and expanding existing criminal prohibitions on obstructing public places and rights-of-way and by establishing new civil liability for obstruction of public places.

This bill establishes a new crime of obstruction in public places, which involves the obstructing or blocking a public place, or dropping a substance that creates a substantial risk of physical injury. The bill also increases the penalties for obstructing public places, including airport runways and navigable waterways, where there is substantial risk of physical harm or interference with emergency response.

Finally, the bill creates a new civil cause of action by any person who is obstructed and provides for statutory damages in addition to compensatory and other damages. Liability extends to persons and organizations that conspire with or encourage, with actual malice, anyone who engages in public obstruction. There is no liability for those who obtain a permit or other appropriate authorization to utilize a public place, nor are governmental entities subject to liability for obstructing public places in the course of their management and control of such places.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Dunleavy", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor

Enclosure