

This is a **DRAFT AMENDED VERSION**  
of all amendments incorporated into **CSHB 264(HSS) am** as of March 20, 2024

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UNAMENDED VERSION MUST BE USED IN DRAFTING  
FUTURE AMENDMENTS

**CSHB 264(HSS) am**

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 264(HSS) am**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Amended: 3/22/24**

**Offered: 2/28/24**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES VANCE, Josephson**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act requiring the Department of Family and Community Services to develop a**  
2   **shared screening methodology; relating to sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree;**  
3   **requiring shelters for runaway minors to screen minors for victimization relating to**  
4   **sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation; requiring the**  
5   **Department of Family and Community Services to screen children in need of aid for**  
6   **victimization relating to sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and commercial sexual**  
7   **exploitation; and relating to the duty of the Department of Family and Community**  
8   **Services to investigate the experiences of missing children in need of aid who have been**  
9   **located."**

10   **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

11    \* **Section 1.** AS 47.10.394(c) is amended to read:

12           (c) In this section,

1                   (1) "child abuse or neglect" has the meaning given in AS 47.17.290;

2                   (2) "commercial sexual exploitation" means the sexual abuse or  
3                   exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for  
4                   anything of value given or received by any person.

5       \* Sec. 2. AS 47.10.394 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6                   (d) A shelter for runaway minors shall use the screening methods developed in  
7                   AS 47.14.100(u) to screen minors receiving services to determine whether the minor is  
8                   a victim, or at risk of becoming a victim, of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or  
9                   commercial sexual exploitation. A shelter for runaway minors shall screen a minor  
10                  upon intake and any time the shelter receives information that circumstances exist  
11                  indicating that the minor is at a heightened risk for sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or  
12                  commercial sexual exploitation.

13       \* Sec. 3. AS 47.14.100(t) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

14                  (4) "commercial sexual exploitation" means the sexual abuse or  
15                  exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for  
16                  anything of value given or received by any person.

17       \* Sec. 4. AS 47.14.100 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

18                  (u) The department shall work with agency partners and advocacy  
19                  organizations to develop a shared screening methodology to appropriately identify  
20                  whether a child is a victim of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or commercial sexual  
21                  exploitation. The methods shall support the trafficking information-gathering efforts in  
22                  the state. The department shall screen a child committed to the department upon the  
23                  child's initial commitment to the department and when the department receives  
24                  information that circumstances exist indicating that the child is at a heightened risk of  
25                  being a victim of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or commercial sexual exploitation.

26                  (v) Upon locating a child committed to the custody of the department who was  
27                  missing, abducted, or ran away, the department shall

28                         (1) investigate the child's experiences while absent from the custody of  
29                         the department;

30                         (2) determine the primary factors that caused or contributed to the  
31                         child's absence; and

(3) screen the child to determine whether the child is a victim of sexual abuse, sex trafficking, or commercial sexual exploitation.

\* **Sec. 5.** AS 11.41.434(a) is amended to read:

(3) Being 18 years of age or older, the offender engages in sexual penetration with a person who is under 18 [16] years of age.

\* **Sec. 6.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TRANSITION. The Department of Family and Community Services shall develop and begin using the shared screening methodology required by sec. 4 of this Act not later than one year after the date this Act takes effect.