

REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SCHRAGE

HOUSE BILL 70

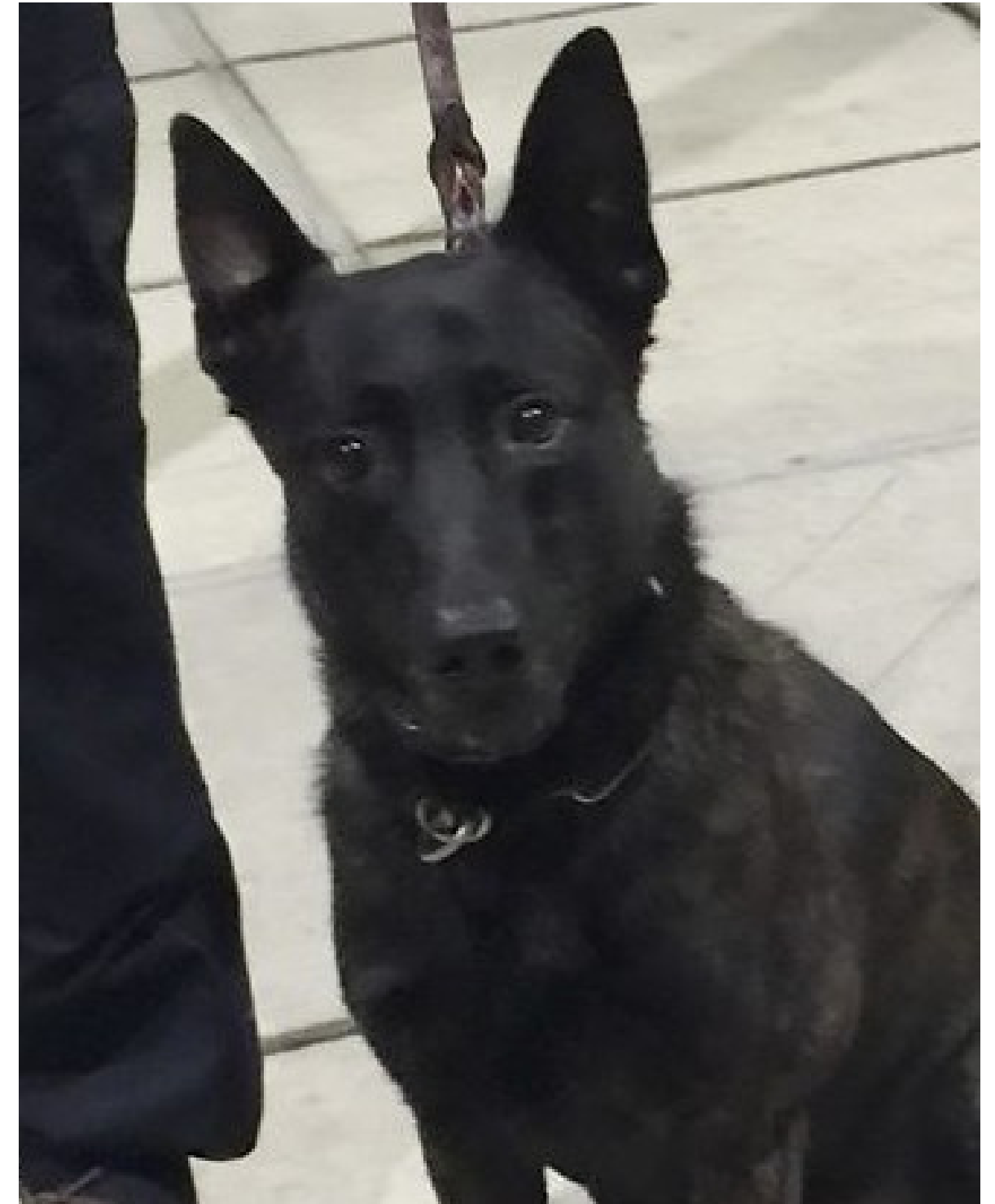
RICO'S LAW

➤ PRESENTED BY JEREMY HOUSTON

An Act relating to emergency services and operational canines.

INTRODUCTION

- Alaska currently lacks statutory authority for emergency medical personnel to care for operational canines.
- EMS personnel already have the medications and equipment needed to provide this care.
- Operational canines have been essential to many successful government and search and rescue operations.
- Passing this bill would allow EMS personnel to provide critical care to their canine colleagues.



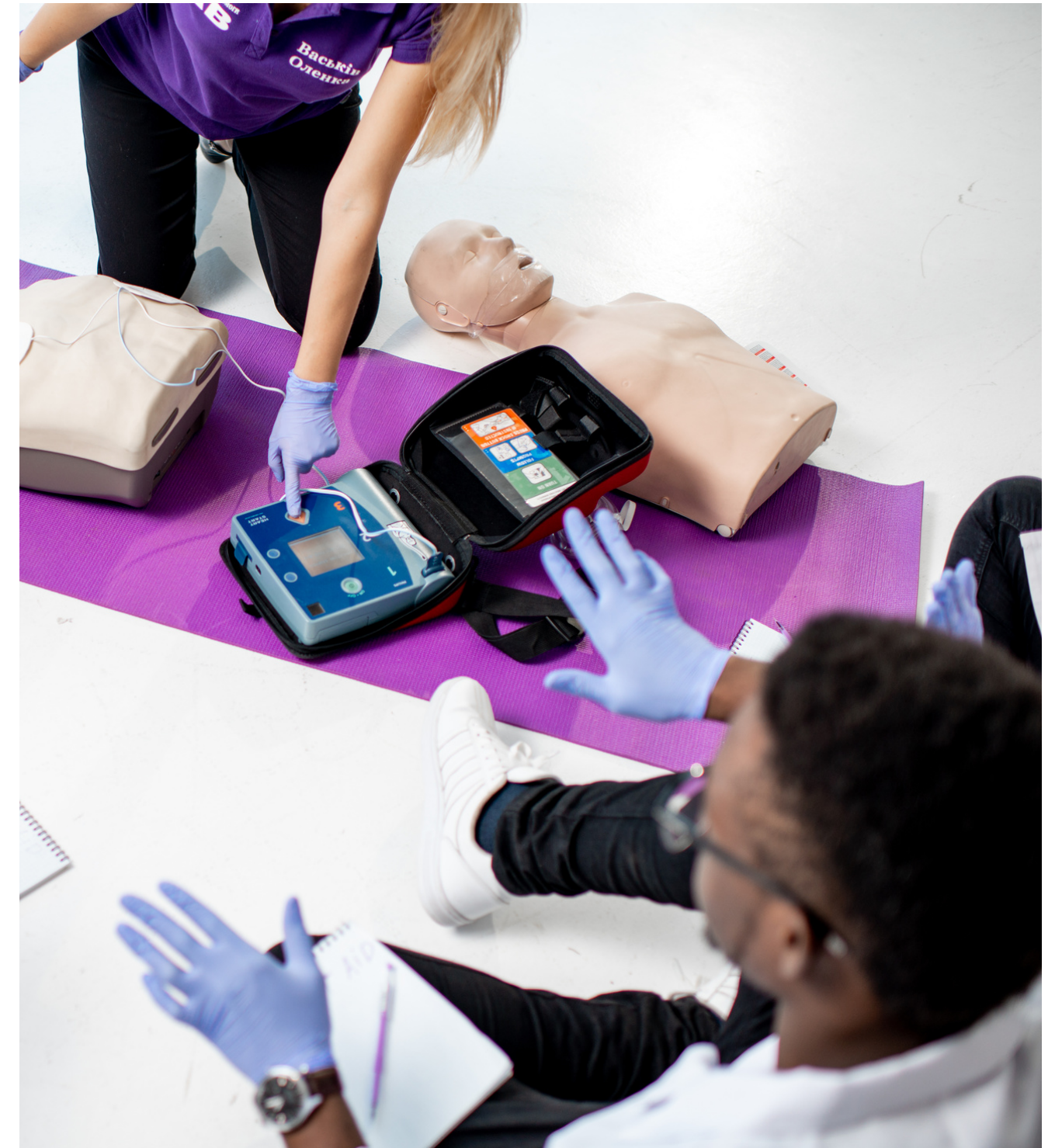
SECTION 1 AND 2

- Section 1 allows EMTs and paramedics to provide medical care and transport to operational canines without from risk of prosecution.
- Section 2 permits EMTs and paramedics to enter private property when caring for an operational canine.



SECTION 3 & 4

- Section 3 directs the Department of Health to set requirements prior to authorizing a licensed EMT or paramedic to provide emergency medical services to an operational canine.
- Section 4 extends civil liability protection to providers, or directors of providers, who care for operational canines.



SECTION 5 & 6

- Section 5 removes language preventing the release of medical records to EMTs and paramedics unless necessary for evaluating their performance.
- Section 6 reinserts the removed language and adds a subsection to protect operational canines' medical records.



SECTION 7

- Subsection (a) sets specific training and authorization requirements for EMTs and paramedics to provide care to an operational canine.
- Subsection (b) sets requirements for transporting operational canines.



SECTIONS 8, 9, & 10

- Section 8 sets requirements for telehealth encounters with operational canines.
- Section 9 defines operational canine and veterinarian under AS 18.08
- Section 10 sets an effective date of January 1, 2026.



CLOSING

- Currently, emergency medical services personnel are not allowed to apply life-saving point of injury care to operational canines.
- Alaska's EMS professionals already possess the equipment and medications needed to care for operational canines.
- The passage of this bill would allow EMS personnel to provide life-saving care and transport for injured operational canines.

QUESTIONS

Please direct all questions not answered during the committee hearing to Jeremy Houston, staff to Representative Schrage.

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