A.C.O.A.

ALASKA CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

'Walking Alaska's Toughest Beat"

January 27, 2025

Senator Jesse Kiehl State Capitol 120 4th Street, Room 514 Juneau AK, 99801

Re: Correctional Officers - Letter of Support for SB 31

Senator Kiehl,

The Alaska Correctional Officers Association represents 980 Correctional Officers in the State of Alaska. Just like all other Alaska Public Safety Officers, Correctional Officers put their lives on the line every day.

Senate Bill 31 provides confidentiality for Correctional Officers who risk harassment and retaliation by offenders and inmates who too often channel their anger at those charged with their care and security. SB 31 targets those situations most likely to result in the unnecessary release of personal addresses and telephone numbers to the public, thereby reducing the chance that such personally, identifiable information will fall into the hands of those seeking to harm our hard-working Correctional Officers and their loved ones.

SB 31 requires that personal addresses and telephone numbers of Correctional Officers cannot be placed in court files and shared openly, unless the court determines that the information is necessary and relevant to the case. Additionally, when personal information is ordered to be placed in court documentation, SB 31 requires this information to be redacted from all documents before it is publicly released.

Correctional Officers should not have to worry that someone with bad intentions might show up on their doorstep threatening harm to the Officer or their family every time they are required to share their physical address on documentation that could be publicly accessed.

Additionally, SB 31 requires Correctional Officers be provided with a post office box as a substitute mailing address. Providing Correctional Officers with a substitute mailing address gives them a way to avoid sharing their physical address and increases their peace of mind as they protect the public.

Alaska's Correctional Officers fully support the passage of SB 31. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Randy McClellan

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President, Alaska Correctional Officers Association

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