

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



## REPRESENTATIVE ZACK FIELDS

Fairview • South Addition • Forest Park • Downtown • North Star

### **Sponsor Statement: HB 282**

HB 282 clarifies that a local government may use automated traffic enforcement for traffic safety cameras. This law is necessary to address an antiquated requirement that red light enforcement be conducted solely by police officers who personally serve tickets to potential offenders.

Alaskans are enduring an unprecedented surge in fatalities and serious injuries, both from collisions among vehicles and from collisions in which vehicles kill or seriously injure pedestrians and bicyclists. This surge in serious injuries and deaths is occurring at a time when police departments across the state are woefully understaffed, meaning that in-person traffic enforcement is functionally impossible.

Local governments are doing everything in their power to hire and retain public safety personnel, and to make local operations more efficient. This legislation would allow local governments to improve traffic safety at the least cost possible while continuing to prioritize police enforcement to best protect human life.