

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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SENATOR KEVIN MEYER
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SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SB 239

"An Act relating to ignition interlock devices, to refusal to submit to a chemical test, and to driving while under the influence."

SB 239 would clarify the sentencing statutes regarding the use of ignition interlock device (IID).

Effective in 2009, legislation was passed mandating an IID as part of the sentencing for driving while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, inhalant, or controlled substance.

In 2009, there were 3,513 court orders requiring IID, 193 limited licenses for an IID were issued, and over 1,245 IIDs were installed in vehicles. There have been some reports of the IID being suspended in sentencing and of people with more violations having less time with an IID.

SB 239 would seek to remedy these loopholes by 1) requiring a period of time an IID to be installed stair stepped with each offense and 2) listing an IID as a condition of sentencing that cannot be suspended.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures January 2010 Legisbrief, research shows that installation of an IID reduces can reduce recidivism up to 90 percent.