Alaska State Legislature

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An Act allowing as a condition of probation for a defendant convicted of certain sex offenses a prohibition against the defendant's residing at a residence where outdoor recreational equipment suitable for use by children under 16 years of age is located on the property.

This act will amend the current statute AS 12.55.100(e) to include a provision that will prevent individuals registered as a sex offender to live in a residence where outdoor equipment is located on the property. This act will give judges the opportunity to restrict specific sex offenders from having any item a child would want to play on like a trampoline or a jungle gym. These items can be used to lure children into a situation where a past offender could create a relationship with the child, leading to a repeat offense. Under current law, registered sex offenders may be required to refrain from using or creating a web site, communicating with children less than 16 years of age, possessing or using a computer, and residing within 500 feet of a school.

The state of Alaska does not apply austere residence restrictions to sexual offenders. This act will add a minor residence restriction to prevent sexual recidivism by offenders. This act affects only individuals who have previously committed sexual offenses.

This is an important addition that would increase the safety of children and would reduce initial contact between children and sex offenders. By reducing the chance of an interaction, we reduce the chance of a sexual offender repeating his or her crime. This act will provide the courts with a tool they do not currently have when dealing with sex offenders.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue.