## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## **REPRESENTATIVE WES KELLER** DISTRICT 7

## SECTIONAL

To: Members of the Alaska Legislature

Date: February 20, 2014

Re: Sectional of CS for House Bill 127 (28-LS088\G

CS for House Bill 127 is broken into 10 sections:

Section 1: Permits the ombudsman to receive step increases while in office.

Section 2: Permits employees of the ombudsman to be hired under personal service contracts.

Section 3: Maintains privacy under attorney client privilege.

**Section 4:** Exempts the ombudsman and staff from being forced to testify in either a judicial or administrative hearing regarding matters involving official duty work.

**Section 5:** Brings procurement language in compliance with standard Legislative procurement code including future changes as they develop.

**Section 6:** "Instrumentality" is added to the list of agencies that can be investigated by the Ombudsman which includes any statutorily established "instrumentality of the state."

Additionally, persons who hold contracts with the state to provide adult and minor inmate services, or mental health treatment can be investigated by the ombudsman.

**Section 7:** Notice to contract services in section 6 will be included in the contract language for those services.

**Section 8:** Addresses an amendment to Court Rules 501 and 503 of the right not to be forced to testify in the case of attorney-client privilege as indicated in Section 4 of the bill.

Section 9: Effective date

**Section 10:** Required language for legislative vote on indirect court rule amendment. Necessary for implementing Section 3 and 4

Please note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

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