

From: John M. Kennish [<mailto:kennish@live.com>]
Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2014 1:48 PM
To: Sen. Bert Stedman
Subject: SB201

I support this bill. I have property in Ninilchik and people are always coming on to it without permission. My cabin has been broken into once and I always see signs that someone has driven onto my property with the ATV. It is especially bad when the Salmonstock celebration is ongoing. I respect other people's property and I would appreciate the same in return. Thank you for this effort.

From: Cleve Cowles [<mailto:ceejaycee5@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2014 11:04 AM
To: Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: Please support SB 201; please consider a few other comments on this topic:

As it appears, the SB 201 proposed deletions of AS 11.46.350(b and c) take the burden from the landowner requiring onerous posting requirements. I support these changes.

This would be helpful, but I don't think those changes go far enough or clearly articulate a more fundamental principal: If you haven't acquired prior approval to be on private property, regardless of how the land appears (remote or within sight of a dwelling) you are presumed to be trespassing.

Other comments:

It appears odd to me that this section is buried under the heading of "Vehicle Theft"

More needs to be done on this topic, if it hasn't been: The state code should make it clear that unless you have obtained permission in writing to be on private property, that you are presumptively trespassing. The ignorance excuse doesn't cut it anymore given that modern locational devices (GPS) can tell a person exactly where they are. Also, the law should articulate that the State Police can act forcibly to immediately remove or charge a trespasser if requested to do so by an aggrieved private property owner providing clear evidence of trespass (such as by photo images, including remotely operated or otherwise automated cameras).

Does the Alaska Code have a definition of trespass? If not, it needs one along the lines of the above comment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cleve Cowles
Eagle River, Alaska