

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate District N

Sponsor Statement SB 180 **“Parent-Guardian/Child: Temporary Power of Attorney”**

Senate Bill 180 seeks to establish an alternative route to placing a child into the foster care system. It allows parents to execute a power of attorney over their minor child **for no more than one year** to another person in order to prevent the child from needing to enter the foster care system.

It allows parents or guardians, who are struggling, to seek help with unemployment, homelessness, addiction, etc. without the concern of losing their child(ren) or being held liable for abandonment, abuse or neglect of the child during the execution of the power of attorney. This bill allows a parent or guardian to execute a power of attorney for no more than one year for their child to another person. There are provisions in this bill that allow for military parents or guardians, as well as incarcerated parents to execute a power of attorney for their children. The parent or guardian maintains all their parental rights with the power of attorney.

This bill does not require the person appointed as the attorney-in-fact to comply with the licensing requirements of a child care facility or foster care.

I urge you to support this bill that will help keep families together, keep children safe and help prevent abuse and neglect.

Chair Senate Resources Committee | Vice-Chair Health & Social Services | Vice-Chair Labor & Commerce

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