



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Matt Claman

Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 465-4919

Interim: 1500 W. Benson Blvd., Anch, AK 99503 Phone: 269-0130

House Bill 33 Sponsor Statement

"An Act relating to defenses to sexual assault; and relating to registration of sex offenders."

House Bill 33 clarifies that a person who is convicted of a sex crime and required to register as a sex offender in another state is also required to register as a sex offender in Alaska. Under HB 33, sex offenders and child kidnappers who have been convicted in other states (outside Alaska) would have to register in Alaska databases if they are residing in the state. This clarification will bring more accountability for people who otherwise might not have a state record.

House Bill 33 also removes a legal defense to sexual assault that currently exists in state law. In certain limited circumstances, current law still allows a perpetrator of sexual assault to use marriage as a defense if the person engages in sexual activity with their spouse when they know their spouse is mentally incapable, incapacitated, or unaware that the sexual act is being committed. HB 33 removes this defense.

Over the last few months, Alaskans have read heinous reports of sexual assault and violence at the local, state, and national level. By proposing amendments to improve Alaska's sexual assault and sex offender registration statutes, concerned community members can trust that the legislature is listening and taking important steps to update our laws to improve public safety.