



SENATOR JESSE KIEHL

SB 209 Sponsor Statement

SB 209 helps Alaskans who get out of jail, stay out of jail.

Almost everything a person needs to do when they get released from prison requires identification: getting a job, taking a drug test, getting housing, court-ordered counseling, meeting with a parole officer... the list goes on. SB 209 puts them to work on that list on day one, increasing the chance of success.

Under SB 209, anyone who serves more than 120 days in prison will have an ID in their pocket when they walk out the gate, equipped to look for work and a place to live. In many cases people serving short terms will have an unexpired ID already. In others, the Department of Corrections will work with the inmate—whose identity they know well—to issue a new Driver's License or State ID card.

We want former inmates to succeed when they get out, because it means they're not making any more victims. SB 209 takes a step toward success for Alaskans re-entering our communities.