



ALASKA BLACK CAUCUS

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To Whom It May Concern

February 11, 2021

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Black Caucus in support of criminal justice reform and the following bills under consideration by the Alaska Legislature.

SB1. An Act prohibiting the use of chokeholds by peace officers; and relating to justification of use of force by peace officers.

SB2. An Act relating to reporting acts of misconduct by peace officers; relating to de-escalation procedures used by peace officers; relating to peace officer certificates; and relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council.

SB3. An Act relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council; requiring a peace officer to attempt to de-escalate a situation and use alternative non-lethal methods of engagement before discharging a firearm; and requiring a peace officer to provide an oral warning before discharging a firearm.

SB4. An Act relating to justification of use of force by a police officer; and relating to shooting at a moving vehicle.

SB46. An Act relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council; relating to municipal correctional officers and municipal correctional employees; making municipal police officers subject to police standards; establishing a statewide use-of-force database in the Department of Public Safety; requiring a municipality that employs a person as a municipal police officer or in a municipal correctional facility, the Department of Corrections, or the Department of Public Safety to report for inclusion in the database incidents of use of force by state and municipal police, probation, parole, and correctional officers and municipal correctional facility employees; and providing for an effective date.

SB7. An Act requiring the Department of Public Safety to publish certain policies and procedures on the department's internet website.

The Alaska Black Caucus submits that these legislative enactments would establish greater transparency with public law enforcement and improve the level of trust by the community in local public safety organizations.

Sincerely,

Celeste Hodge Growden
President/CEO

cc: Alaska Black Caucus Justice Committee

The purpose of the Alaska Black Caucus shall be to assert the Constitutional Rights of Black people:

(1) by involvement in the decision making processes of the community and state by becoming a contributing part of those duly authorized and representative bodies affecting the lives and livelihoods of Black people; (2) by actively supporting and working in areas which help to advance the educational, cultural, political, and economic well-being of the Black community; (3) by acting as a liaison and coordinating entity for the various minority interests within the community and State; (4) by making available accurate and timely information on relevant issues and areas of concern to minority people; (5) by recreating awareness that the struggle to achieve total equality has not yet been achieved; (6) by emphasizing the ever-increasing need for Blacks and minorities to make renewed attempts toward attaining these goals.