



### **SB 187 Sex Offenses Highlights**

- **Sexual contact with no force:** the legislation creates a class C felony offense for sexual contact (directly or through clothing) where there is no force or the threat of force. This offense would be a registerable sex offense upon the second conviction.
- **Closes the gap in Alaska's current criminal laws on sex offenses**
  - Current law: requires force or the threat of force in order for unwanted sexual contact to be sexual assault. *State v. Townsend* (2011).
  - This does not adequately cover conduct in which a person is touched and there is no force.

#### Examples:

- The spontaneous grabbing of another person's genitals without force is not sexual assault; or
- Sexual assault where the victim freezes out of fear or shock and force is not used in order to make the victim submit to the sexual touching.
- This legislation elevates this offense to a class C felony and requires registration.

- **Updates Alaska's sex offender registration**
  - Additional registerable offenses: makes additional offenses such as sending an explicit image of a minor (AS 11.61.116) and misconduct involving a corpse (sexual penetration of a corpse) (AS 11.61.130) registerable.
    - These offenses are in the same class of offenses that are already registerable.
  - Additional information to the Department of Public Safety: aligns Alaska's sex offender registration more closely with the federal registration by requiring sex offenders to provide the Department of Public Safety with additional information (travel plans, professional licensing information, temporary lodging information, and passport information). Such information is important to better monitor these offenders.
  
- **Revocation of Teaching Certificates**
  - This legislation requires a lifetime revocation of an Alaska teaching certificate if the person has been convicted of distribution or possession of child pornography (AS 11.61.125 and 11.61.127).
  - Current law: only requires a lifetime revocation for certain sex offenses, such as sexual assault and sexual abuse of a minor but not possession or distribution of child pornography.