

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## Senator David Wilson

### Sectional Analysis

#### Senate Bill 182 v. G to v. O

#### **“An Act establishing the crime of interference with emergency communications.”**

The Senate Judiciary Committee Substitute made the following changes:

**(v.G) Page 1, Line 14-15:** “(3) uses obscene language during an emergency communication with the intent to intimidate or harass an emergency communications worker; or”

**(v. O) Page 1, Line 14-15:** “(3) threatens an emergency communications worker during an emergency communication; or”

**Purpose:** to strengthen the language to require an actual threat to be made to an emergency communications worker in order for this section of statute to apply.

**(v. G) Page 2, Lines 1-5:** “(4) interference with, blocks, or otherwise disrupts communications between an emergency communications worker and police, fire, or medical service personnel, or between police, fire, or medical personnel, with the intent to cause a disruption in service; this paragraph does not apply to routine maintenance conducted by authorized personnel.”

**(v. O) Page 2, lines 1-12:** “(4) with the intent to cause a disruption in service, interferes with, blocks, or otherwise disrupts an emergency communication that takes place by telephone, radio, or other electronic means between

(A) an emergency communications worker and police, fire, or medical service personnel;

(B) police, fire, or medical service personnel; or

(C) an emergency communication worker and a person reporting an emergency or otherwise assisting the emergency communications worker during the emergency communication.

(b) Interference with emergency communications made under (a)(4) of this section does not apply to in-person communications or routine maintenance conducted by an authorized personnel.

**Purpose:** To clarify that this section does not apply to in person communications but rather interference with electronic communications. This change also added communications between emergency communication workers and the reporting party.

**(v. G) Page 2, Lines 7-8** “(1) “emergency communication” means a communication made to an emergency communications center;”

**(v. O) Page 2 Lines 14-16** “(1) “emergency communication” means a communication made to or from an emergency communication center or between police, fire, or medical services personnel in response to an emergency;”

**Purpose:** To clarify that this definition includes calls *from* an emergency communication center and calls between emergency personnel when they are responding to an emergency.

**(v. G) Page 2 Lines 30-31 and Page 3 Line 1-3** “(A) within the preceding 10 years, the person was convicted on two or more separate occasions of interference with emergency communications in this jurisdiction or a similar crime in another jurisdiction or (B)”

**(v.O) Above language deleted.**

**Purpose:** To remove the felony charge for repeated convictions under this law.