## **ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**

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## Senator Mia Costello District K - West Anchorage

## Senate Bill 201 – Use of Internet for Charitable Gaming Sponsor Statement

"An Act relating to charitable gaming online ticket sales and activities; and providing for an effective date."

Charities in Alaska have long utilized raffles and classics as a way to fundraise for important causes. But a huge hinderance to these fundraising efforts is the requirement to sell raffle tickets and draw winners in person. In a state as vast as ours, this has limited the ability of charities to receive support from all corners of Alaska, whether that charity is located in a population center or a remote community.

Senate Bill 201 would modernize Alaska's gaming statutes to allow raffle tickets to be sold online and for winning tickets to be drawn online. Instead of needing to participate in person, an individual from Hyder could buy a raffle ticket to support a charity hundreds of miles away in Nome and vice versa.

Modernizing charitable gaming by allowing online ticket sales for raffles and classics will give nonprofit organizations across Alaska an opportunity to increase their fundraising and expand their charitable efforts in our communities.