



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
**JUDICIARY**  
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Sponsor Statement**

**HB 181**

*"An Act renaming the State Commission for Human Rights the Alaska State Commission for Civil Rights; relating to removal of commissioners of the Alaska State Commission for Civil Rights; relating to reports from the Alaska State Commission for Civil Rights; relating to the definition of 'employer' for the purposes of the Alaska State Commission for Civil Rights; and relating to local civil rights commissions."*

House Bill 181 was introduced at the request of the State Commission for Human Rights.

This bill amends current statute renaming the State Commission for Human Rights to the Alaska State Commission for Civil Rights, allows the governor to remove a commissioner from office for cause, amends the reporting date requirements and the definition of employer.

HB 181 renames the commission to better reflect the civil liberties protections outlined in their mission to eliminate and prevent discrimination. The overall purpose of the bill is to change the reporting dates to the legislature to better accommodate data analysis and review by the commission to produce a report as outlined in Resolution 2023-3.

Finally, HB 181 amends the definition of employer to clarify that the definition of "employer" does not include non-profits, associations, social or fraternal entities under AS 10.20.005, religious associations and religious corporations under AS 10.40.010, and for-profit religious organizations AS 10.50.010.