## Alaska State Legislature



## **Summary of Changes**

SB 81 Version B to SB 81 Version B.A

Office of Victims' Rights: Compensation

The Senate co-chair of the current Victims' Advocate Selection Committee, which is charged with hiring the director to lead the Office of Victims' Rights, introduced an amendment to SB 81 on the Senate Floor to help streamline and modernize the hiring process.

The amendment added two sections to the original version of the bill:

**Section 1** removes the requirement that the Legislature confirm the victims' advocate by a roll call vote in a joint session. This section creates a process where each body is individually and independently able to ratify the appointment of the nominee through a 2/3 vote without having a joint session.

**Section 3** adds a provision that gives the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House the authority to jointly appoint an acting victims' advocate if the victims' advocate is not available to appoint an acting victims' advocate or if the legislature is unable to ratify one during the legislative session.