

Representative Cathy Tilton

Alaska State Legislature – House District 26



SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 61

(33-LS0333\A)

Restrictions on Firearms and Other Weapons

HB 61 is a response to situations that have occurred throughout the country during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In at least five states including Alaska, and the Municipality of Anchorage, firearms retailers were arbitrarily closed by governors and mayors. When it comes to firearms Alaska is different compared to most other states. Firearm use for protection and subsistence predates Alaska's statehood and the application of the Second Amendment.

HB 61 reaffirms Alaskans' right to survive and protect themselves, along with their rights granted to them through the Second Amendment. HB 61 stipulates that the state, municipalities, and other instrumentalities of the state may not implement new restrictions to access firearms, ammunition, firearms accessories, or shooting ranges resulting from disaster declarations. Furthermore, HB 61 also provides a civil remedy to Alaskans, should any of those entities adopt statutes, ordinances, or policies in violation of the provisions of this bill.

Nothing in HB 61 limits the state, municipalities, and other instrumentalities from regulating firearms or their use within previously established constitutional and statutory boundaries.

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