



### Sectional Analysis

#### **HB 330B (33-LS0761\H.A) An Act relating to the use and possession of electronic devices by prisoners.**

*“An Act relating to the use and possession of electronic devices by prisoners.”*

**Section 1:** Updates and Amends AS 33.30.015 which prohibits the Depart of Corrections from providing certain services or devices that would primarily focus on comfort or entertainment. Our amendment is to AS 33.30.015(a)(3)(A) where we include a phone as a prohibited item in a prisoner’s cell and create the prohibition of a computer or an electronic tablet unless used for a purpose outlined in (I).

The amended subsection (I) of 33.30.015(a)(3) generally lays out the permitted uses of a computer in a correctional facility and limits what services the facilities may approve. Our amendment includes electronic tablets as devices that may be approved by a correctional facility to facilitate the prisoner’s rehabilitation or the prisoner's compliance with a reentry plan or case plan as part of the prisoner’s employment, education, vocational training, access to legal reference materials, visitation, health care, or for another purpose identified by the commissioner in regulation. (I) Specifically states that the devices “may not be used for any other purpose.”

The new subsection (4) of 33.30.015(a) prohibits a facility from charging a fee for electronic mail or electronic visitation services.

**Section 2:** Amends AS 33.30.231 by adding a Subsection (e) that prohibits the Commissioner from setting a “rate of reimbursement for the use of a telephone, a form of digital communication, or an electronic visitation service by a prisoner at a rate that exceeds the cost of service.”

**Section 3:** Amends the uncodified law of the State of Alaska to clarify that prohibition in AS 33.30.231(e) applies to costs incurred on or after the effective date of this Act.

**Section 4:** Amends the uncodified law of the State of Alaska to clarify that prohibition in AS 33.30.015(a)(4), applies to costs incurred on or after the effective date of this Act.