

**REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SCHRAGE**

**HOUSE BILL 70**

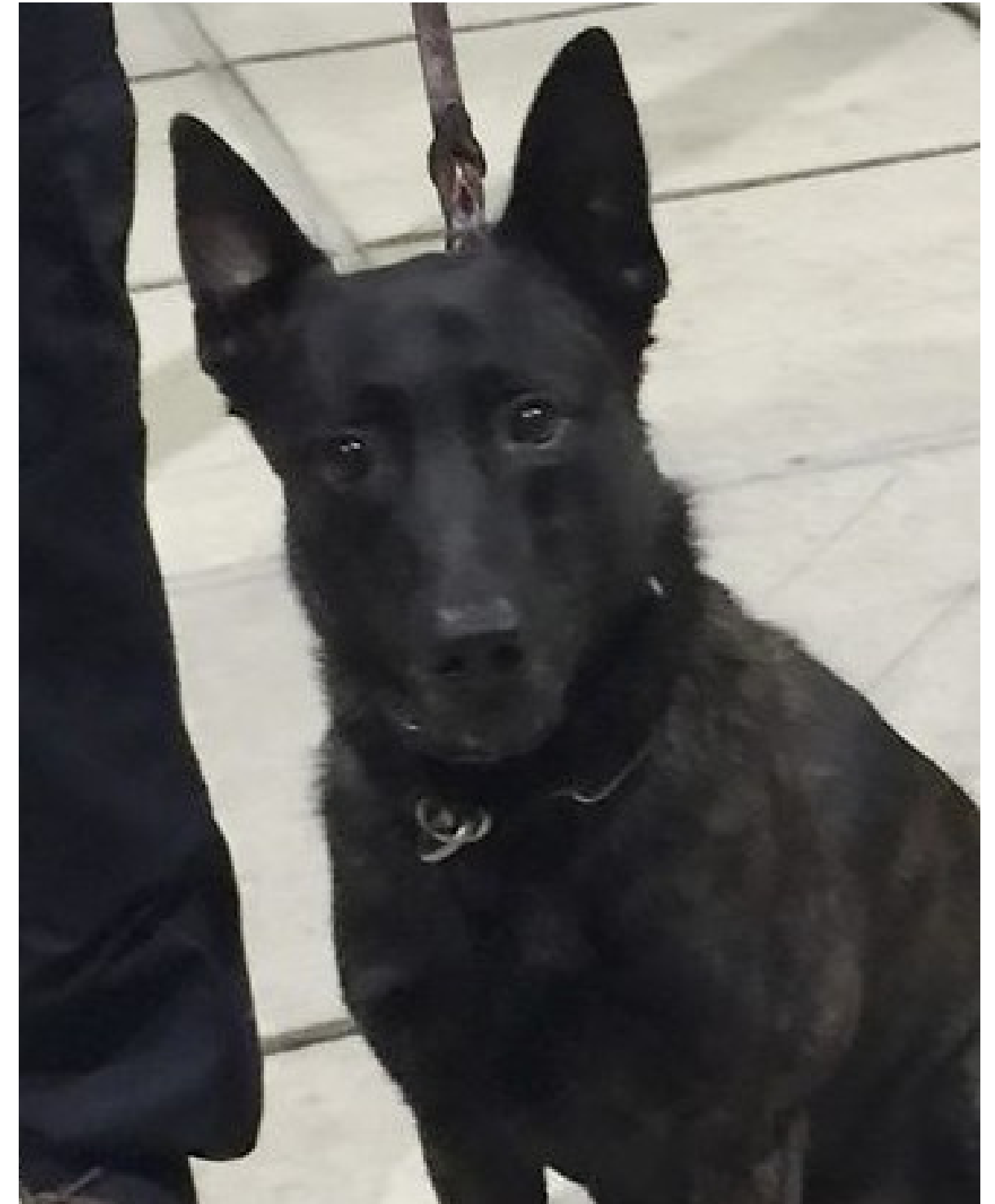
**RICCO'S LAW**

**➤ PRESENTED BY JEREMY HOUSTON**

*An Act relating to emergency services and operational canines.*

# INTRODUCTION

- Alaska currently lacks statutory authority for emergency medical personnel to care for operational canines.
- EMS personnel already have the medications and equipment needed to provide this care.
- Operational canines have been essential to many successful government and search and rescue operations.
- Passing this bill would allow EMS personnel to provide critical care to their canine colleagues.





# SECTION 1, 2, AND 3

- Section 1 exempts EMTs and paramedics providing medical care and transport to operational canines from risk of prosecution.
- Section 2 permits EMTs and paramedics to enter private property when caring for an operational canine.
- Section 3 extends civil liability protection to providers, or directors of providers, who care for operational canines.





# SECTION 4 AND 5

- Section 4 removes language preventing the release of medical records to EMTs and paramedics unless necessary for evaluating their performance.
- Section 5 reinserts the removed language and adds a subsection to protect operational canines' medical records.





# SECTION 6

- Subsection (a) sets specific training and authorization requirements for EMTs and paramedics to provide care to an operational canine.
- Subsection (b) sets requirements for transporting and administering drugs to operational canines.



# SECTIONS 7, 8, AND 9

- Section 7 sets requirements for telehealth encounters with operational canines.
- Section 8 defines operational canine and veterinarian under AS 18.08
- Section 9 sets an effective date of January 1, 2026.





# CLOSING

- Currently, emergency medical services personnel are not allowed to apply life-saving point of injury care to operational canines.
- Alaska's EMS professionals already possess the equipment and medications needed to care for operational canines.
- The passage of this bill would allow EMS personnel to provide life-saving care and transport for injured operational canines.

# QUESTIONS

Please direct all questions not answered during the committee hearing to Jeremy Houston, staff to Representative Schrage.

**Jeremy Houston**

Jeremy.houston@akleg.gov

(907) 465-4931

**Representative Calvin Schrage**

rep.calvin.schrage@akleg.gov

(907) 465-4931