

**HOUSE BILL NO. 254**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES BERKOWITZ, Gara**

**Introduced: 4/9/03**

**Referred: State Affairs, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act directing the Alaska Police Standards Council to determine the number of**  
2 **police officers needed for various purposes; and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
5 to read:

6 FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The legislature finds that police protection should be  
7 universal across the state and law enforcement personnel should have the tools to perform  
8 their duties. The legislature recognizes that defining police staffing and deployment  
9 requirements is a complex effort that requires consideration of numerous factors. The  
10 purpose of this Act is to determine police staffing levels and deployment requirements  
11 necessary to protect all communities in the state.

12 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 18.65 is amended by adding a new section to read:

13 **Sec. 18.65.222. Assessment of police officer levels.** (a) Through a process  
14 established by the council, the council shall annually determine the number of police

1 officers required in each community of the state that would enable the Department of  
2 Public Safety to

3 (1) respond to emergency and nonemergency demands of all citizens in  
4 a timely manner;

5 (2) conduct prevention and other proactive patrol tasks effectively,  
6 including community-oriented policing and problem solving;

7 (3) allow officers to meet administrative requirements satisfactorily,  
8 including report writing, training, court, and personal needs; and

9 (4) ensure the safety of the public and police officers.

10 (b) On or before November 1 of each year, the council shall submit a report to  
11 the governor that includes its findings under (a) of this section. The council shall  
12 notify the legislature that the report is available.

13 \* **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
14 read:

15 TRANSITIONAL PROVISION. Notwithstanding AS 18.65.222(b), enacted by sec. 2  
16 of this Act, the first report by the Alaska Police Standards Council that is required under  
17 AS 18.65.222, enacted by sec. 2 of this Act, is due on or before January 31, 2004, the second  
18 report is due on or before November 1, 2004, and subsequent reports are due annually  
19 thereafter.

20 \* **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).