

**HOUSE BILL NO. 425**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES SALMON, Gruenberg**

**Introduced: 2/6/06**

**Referred: Judiciary, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to offenses or juvenile delinquency acts involving the victim's race, sex,**  
2 **color, creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national**  
3 **origin; relating to sentencing, informal adjustment, and adjudication for those offenses**  
4 **and acts; relating to diversity tolerance programs; relating to a civil cause of action for**  
5 **certain acts involving discriminatory harassment; and providing for an effective date."**

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

7 **\* Section 1.** AS 09.55 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Sec. 09.55.670. Discriminatory harassment action.** (a) An individual may  
9 maintain a civil action for discriminatory harassment against another, or against the  
10 parent or legal guardian of a minor, who has caused physical injury to the individual,  
11 or damage to the property of the individual, with the intent to intimidate or harass the  
12 individual because of the individual's actual or perceived race, sex, color, creed,  
13 physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national origin.

1 (b) An action may not be maintained under this section against

2 (1) the state, an agency or instrumentality of the state, or a political  
3 subdivision of the state;

4 (2) an agent, officer, or employee of an entity described in (1) of this  
5 subsection;

6 (3) an individual working in or responsible for the operation under  
7 AS 47 of a foster, receiving, or detention home or children's institution, regarding the  
8 acts of an unemancipated minor in the charge or custody of the home or institution; or

9 (4) an employee of or a volunteer with a nonprofit corporation that  
10 designates shelters for runaways under AS 47.10.392 - 47.10.399, regarding the acts of  
11 a minor sheltered in a shelter for runaways, as defined in AS 47.10.399.

12 (c) Compensatory and punitive damages may be awarded to a prevailing  
13 claimant in an action brought under this section. An award of damages against the  
14 parent or legal guardian of a minor under this section must be based upon the reckless  
15 conduct of the parent or legal guardian having actual care and custody of the minor.

16 (d) An award of damages under this section does not preclude an individual  
17 from seeking other remedies available under other law.

18 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 11.76 is amended by adding a new section to read:

19 **Sec. 11.76.200. Motivation by prejudice, bias, or hatred.** (a) A person  
20 commits the crime of motivation by prejudice, bias, or hatred if the person commits a  
21 crime in this title and the person knowingly directed the conduct constituting the crime  
22 at the victim of the crime because of the victim's actual or perceived race, sex, color,  
23 creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national origin.

24 (b) Motivation by prejudice, bias, or hatred is a

25 (1) class A misdemeanor if the crime committed is a class B  
26 misdemeanor;

27 (2) class C felony if the crime committed is a class A misdemeanor;

28 (3) class B felony if the crime committed is a class C felony;

29 (4) class A felony if the crime committed is a class B felony;

30 (5) unclassified felony if the crime committed is a class A felony or  
31 unclassified felony.

1 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 11.81.250(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) For purposes of sentencing under AS 12.55, all offenses defined in this  
3 title, except murder in the first and second degree, attempted murder in the first  
4 degree, solicitation to commit murder in the first degree, conspiracy to commit murder  
5 in the first degree, sexual assault in the first degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the first  
6 degree, misconduct involving a controlled substance in the first degree, **a class A**  
7 **felony when motivated by prejudice, bias, or hatred**, and kidnapping, are classified  
8 on the basis of their seriousness, according to the type of injury characteristically  
9 caused or risked by commission of the offense and the culpability of the offender.  
10 Except for murder in the first and second degree, attempted murder in the first degree,  
11 solicitation to commit murder in the first degree, conspiracy to commit murder in the  
12 first degree, sexual assault in the first degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the first  
13 degree, misconduct involving a controlled substance in the first degree, **a class A**  
14 **felony when motivated by prejudice, bias, or hatred**, and kidnapping, the offenses  
15 in this title are classified into the following categories:

16 (1) class A felonies, which characteristically involve conduct resulting  
17 in serious physical injury or a substantial risk of serious physical injury to a person;

18 (2) class B felonies, which characteristically involve conduct resulting  
19 in less severe violence against a person than class A felonies, aggravated offenses  
20 against property interests, or aggravated offenses against public administration or  
21 order;

22 (3) class C felonies, which characteristically involve conduct serious  
23 enough to deserve felony classification but not serious enough to be classified as A or  
24 B felonies;

25 (4) class A misdemeanors, which characteristically involve less severe  
26 violence against a person, less serious offenses against property interests, less serious  
27 offenses against public administration or order, or less serious offenses against public  
28 health and decency than felonies;

29 (5) class B misdemeanors, which characteristically involve a minor  
30 risk of physical injury to a person, minor offenses against property interests, minor  
31 offenses against public administration or order, or minor offenses against public health

1 and decency;

2 (6) violations, which characteristically involve conduct inappropriate  
3 to an orderly society but which do not denote criminality in their commission.

4 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 11.81.250(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) The classification of each felony defined in this title, except murder in the  
6 first and second degree, attempted murder in the first degree, solicitation to commit  
7 murder in the first degree, conspiracy to commit murder in the first degree, sexual  
8 assault in the first degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, misconduct  
9 involving a controlled substance in the first degree, **a class A felony when motivated**  
10 **by prejudice, bias, or hatred,** and kidnapping, is designated in the section defining it.  
11 A felony under Alaska law defined outside this title for which no penalty is  
12 specifically provided is a class C felony.

13 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 12.55.085(f) is amended to read:

14 (f) The court may not suspend the imposition of sentence of a person who

15 (1) is convicted of a violation of AS 11.41.100 - 11.41.220, 11.41.260  
16 - 11.41.320, 11.41.410 - 11.41.530, [OR] AS 11.46.400, **or AS 11.76.200;**

17 (2) uses a firearm in the commission of the offense for which the  
18 person is convicted; [OR]

19 (3) is convicted of a violation of AS 11.41.230 - 11.41.250 or a felony  
20 and the person has one or more prior convictions for a misdemeanor violation of  
21 AS 11.41 or for a felony or for a violation of a law in this or another jurisdiction  
22 having substantially similar elements to an offense defined as a misdemeanor in  
23 AS 11.41 or as a felony in this state; for the purposes of this paragraph, a person shall  
24 be considered to have a prior conviction even if that conviction has been set aside  
25 under (e) of this section or under the equivalent provision of the laws of another  
26 jurisdiction; **or**

27 **(4) is convicted of an offense and knowingly directed the conduct**  
28 **constituting the offense at a victim because of that person's actual or perceived**  
29 **race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry,**  
30 **or national origin.**

31 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 12.55.125(b) is amended to read:

1 (b) A defendant convicted of attempted murder in the first degree, solicitation  
 2 to commit murder in the first degree, conspiracy to commit murder in the first degree,  
 3 kidnapping, **a class A felony when motivated by prejudice, bias, or hatred**, or  
 4 misconduct involving a controlled substance in the first degree shall be sentenced to a  
 5 definite term of imprisonment of at least five years but not more than 99 years. A  
 6 defendant convicted of murder in the second degree shall be sentenced to a definite  
 7 term of imprisonment of at least 10 years but not more than 99 years. A defendant  
 8 convicted of murder in the second degree shall be sentenced to a definite term of  
 9 imprisonment of at least 20 years but not more than 99 years when the defendant is  
 10 convicted of the murder of a child under 16 years of age and the court finds by clear  
 11 and convincing evidence that the defendant (1) was a natural parent, a stepparent, an  
 12 adopted parent, a legal guardian, or a person occupying a position of authority in  
 13 relation to the child; or (2) caused the death of the child by committing a crime against  
 14 a person under AS 11.41.200 - 11.41.530. In this subsection, "legal guardian" and  
 15 "position of authority" have the meanings given in AS 11.41.470.

16 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 12.55.135(i) is amended to read:

17 (i) If a defendant is sentenced under (g) **or (k)** of this section,

18 (1) execution of sentence may not be suspended and probation or  
 19 parole may not be granted until the minimum term of imprisonment has been served;

20 (2) imposition of sentence may not be suspended;

21 (3) the minimum term of imprisonment may not otherwise be reduced.

22 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 12.55.135(j) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

23 (3) "hate crime" means the defendant knowingly directed the conduct  
 24 constituting the offense at a victim because of that person's actual or perceived race,  
 25 sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry, or national  
 26 origin.

27 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 12.55.135 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

28 (k) If a defendant is convicted of an offense other than a violation of  
 29 AS 11.76.200 and the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant  
 30 has committed a misdemeanor hate crime, the court shall sentence the defendant

31 (1) to a minimum term of imprisonment of 60 days if the defendant

1 violated AS 11.41.230(a)(1) or (2) or 11.41.270;

2 (2) to a minimum term of imprisonment of 30 days if the defendant  
3 violated AS 11.41.230(a)(3) or 11.41.250;

4 (3) to a minimum term of imprisonment of 10 days if the defendant  
5 violated AS 11.61.110 or 11.61.120; or

6 (4) as a worst offender if the defendant violated any other provision of  
7 AS 11 that is punishable as a misdemeanor and that is not described in (1) - (3) of this  
8 subsection.

9 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 12.55.155(c)(22) is amended to read:

10 (22) the defendant knowingly directed the conduct constituting the  
11 offense at a victim because of that person's **actual or perceived** race, sex, color, creed,  
12 physical or mental disability, **sexual orientation**, ancestry, or national origin;

13 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 44.28.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (d) The department shall develop a diversity tolerance program for offenders  
15 who have been convicted of a crime that was motivated by the victim's actual or  
16 perceived race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation,  
17 ancestry, or national origin and require those offenders in the custody of the  
18 department to participate in the program.

19 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 44.41.020(c) is amended to read:

20 (c) The department shall

21 (1) establish, and may require state and local law enforcement agencies  
22 to use, standardized methods of collecting and recording law enforcement and crime  
23 statistics;

24 (2) **require state and local law enforcement agencies to separately**  
25 **record and report crimes that are motivated by the victim's actual or perceived**  
26 **race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, ancestry,**  
27 **or national origin.**

28 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 47.12.060(b) is amended to read:

29 (b) When the department or the entity selected by it decides to make an  
30 informal adjustment of a matter under (a)(2) of this section, that informal adjustment

31 (1) must be made with the agreement or consent of the minor and the

1 minor's parents or guardian to the terms and conditions of the adjustment;

2 (2) must give the minor's foster parent an opportunity to be heard  
3 before the informal adjustment is made;

4 (3) must include notice that informal action to adjust a matter is not  
5 successfully completed unless, among other factors that the department or the entity  
6 selected by it considers, as to the victim of the act of the minor that is the basis of the  
7 delinquency allegation, the minor pays restitution in the amount set by the department  
8 or the entity selected by it or agrees as a term or condition set by the department or the  
9 entity selected by it to pay the restitution;

10 (4) for a violation of habitual minor consuming or in possession or  
11 control under AS 04.16.050(d) must include an agreement that the minor perform 96  
12 hours of community work, provide that the minor's driver's license or permit, privilege  
13 to drive, or privilege to obtain a license be revoked for six months, and provide that  
14 the driver's license or permit, privilege to drive, or privilege to obtain a license be  
15 revoked for an additional six months if the informal adjustment is not successful  
16 because the minor has failed to perform community work as ordered, or has failed to  
17 submit to evaluation or successfully complete the education or treatment  
18 recommended; the department or an entity selected by the department shall notify the  
19 agency responsible for issuing driver's licenses of an informal adjustment under this  
20 paragraph or of an unsuccessful adjustment described in this paragraph;

21 (5) of an offense described in AS 28.15.185(a)(1) must include an  
22 agreement that the minor's driver's license or permit, privilege to drive, or privilege to  
23 obtain a license be revoked as provided in AS 28.15.185(b); the department or an  
24 entity selected by the department shall notify the agency responsible for issuing  
25 driver's licenses of an informal adjustment under this paragraph;

26 **(6) must, if there is reason to believe that the minor knowingly**  
27 **directed the conduct constituting a delinquent act at a victim because of that**  
28 **person's actual or perceived race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability,**  
29 **sexual orientation, ancestry, or national origin,**

30 **(A) require the minor to perform a minimum of 100 hours**  
31 **of community work service; and**

1                                   **(B) include a referral to a diversity tolerance program or**  
2                                   **otherwise provide the minor and the minor's parents or guardian with the**  
3                                   **opportunity to develop respect for the ethnic, cultural, and personal**  
4                                   **diversity of all persons of the state.**

5       \* **Sec. 14.** AS 47.12.120(b) is amended to read:

6                   (b) If the minor is not subject to (j) of this section and the court finds that the  
7                   minor is delinquent, it shall

8                               (1) order the minor committed to the department for a period of time  
9                   not to exceed two years or in any event extend past the day the minor becomes 19  
10                  years of age, except that the department may petition for and the court may grant in a  
11                  hearing (A) two-year extensions of commitment that do not extend beyond the minor's  
12                  19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the minor and the public; and  
13                  (B) an additional one-year period of supervision past age 19 if continued supervision  
14                  is in the best interests of the person and the person consents to it; the department shall  
15                  place the minor in the juvenile facility that the department considers appropriate and  
16                  that may include a juvenile correctional school, juvenile work camp, treatment facility,  
17                  detention home, or detention facility; the minor may be released from placement or  
18                  detention and placed on probation on order of the court and may also be released by  
19                  the department, in its discretion, under AS 47.12.260;

20                              (2) order the minor placed on probation, to be supervised by the  
21                  department, and released to the minor's parents, guardian, or a suitable person; if the  
22                  court orders the minor placed on probation, it may specify the terms and conditions of  
23                  probation; the probation may be for a period of time not to exceed two years and in no  
24                  event to extend past the day the minor becomes 19 years of age, except that the  
25                  department may petition for and the court may grant in a hearing

26                                      (A) two-year extensions of supervision that do not extend  
27                  beyond the minor's 19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the  
28                  minor and the public; and

29                                      (B) an additional one-year period of supervision past age 19 if  
30                  the continued supervision is in the best interests of the person and the person  
31                  consents to it;

1           (3) order the minor committed to the custody of the department and  
2 placed on probation, to be supervised by the department and released to the minor's  
3 parents, guardian, other suitable person, or suitable nondetention setting such as with a  
4 relative or in a foster home or residential child care facility, whichever the department  
5 considers appropriate to implement the treatment plan of the predisposition report; if  
6 the court orders the minor placed on probation, it may specify the terms and conditions  
7 of probation; the department may transfer the minor, in the minor's best interests, from  
8 one of the probationary placement settings listed in this paragraph to another, and the  
9 minor, the minor's parents or guardian, the minor's foster parent, and the minor's  
10 attorney are entitled to reasonable notice of the transfer; the probation may be for a  
11 period of time not to exceed two years and in no event to extend past the day the  
12 minor becomes 19 years of age, except that the department may petition for and the  
13 court may grant in a hearing

14                   (A) two-year extensions of commitment that do not extend  
15 beyond the minor's 19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the  
16 minor and the public; and

17                   (B) an additional one-year period of supervision past age 19 if  
18 the continued supervision is in the best interests of the person and the person  
19 consents to it;

20           (4) order the minor and the minor's parent to make suitable restitution  
21 in lieu of or in addition to the court's order under (1), (2), or (3) of this subsection;  
22 under this paragraph,

23                   (A) except as provided in (B) of this paragraph, the court may  
24 not refuse to make an order of restitution to benefit the victim of the act of the  
25 minor that is the basis of the delinquency adjudication; under this  
26 subparagraph, the court may require the minor to use the services of a  
27 community dispute resolution center that has been recognized by the  
28 commissioner under AS 47.12.450(b) to resolve any dispute between the minor  
29 and the victim of the minor's offense as to the amount of or manner of payment  
30 of the restitution;

31                   (B) the court may not order payment of restitution by the parent

1 of a minor who is a runaway or missing minor for an act of the minor that was  
2 committed by the minor after the parent has made a report to a law  
3 enforcement agency, as authorized by AS 47.10.141(a), that the minor has run  
4 away or is missing; for purposes of this subparagraph, "runaway or missing  
5 minor" means a minor who a parent reasonably believes is absent from the  
6 minor's residence for the purpose of evading the parent or who is otherwise  
7 missing from the minor's usual place of abode without the consent of the  
8 parent; and

9 (C) at the request of the department, the Department of Law,  
10 the victims' advocate, or on its own motion, the court shall, at any time, order  
11 the minor and the minor's parent, if applicable, to submit financial information  
12 on a form approved by the Alaska Court System to the court, the department,  
13 and the Department of Law for the purpose of establishing the amount of  
14 restitution or enforcing an order of restitution under AS 47.12.170; the form  
15 must include a warning that submission of incomplete or inaccurate  
16 information is punishable as unsworn falsification under AS 11.56.210;

17 (5) order the minor committed to the department for placement in an  
18 adventure-based education program established under AS 47.21.020 with conditions  
19 the court considers appropriate concerning release upon satisfactory completion of the  
20 program or commitment under (1) of this subsection if the program is not satisfactorily  
21 completed;

22 (6) in addition to an order under (1) - (5) of this subsection, order the  
23 minor to perform community service; for purposes of this paragraph, "community  
24 service" includes work

25 (A) on a project identified in AS 33.30.901; or

26 (B) that, on the recommendation of the city council or  
27 traditional village council, would benefit persons within the city or village who  
28 are elderly or disabled; or

29 (7) in addition to an order under (1) - (6) of this subsection, order the  
30 minor's parent or guardian to comply with orders made under AS 47.12.155, including  
31 participation in treatment under AS 47.12.155(b)(1);

1                   **(8) in addition to an order under (1) - (5) and (7) of this subsection,**  
 2                   **if the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the minor knowingly**  
 3                   **directed the conduct constituting a delinquent act at a victim because of that**  
 4                   **person's actual or perceived race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability,**  
 5                   **sexual orientation, ancestry, or national origin,**

6                   **(A) order the minor to perform a minimum of 100 hours of**  
 7                   **community work service; and**

8                   **(B) carefully assess the plan proposed by the department**  
 9                   **under AS 47.12.130 to ensure that the plan adequately provides the minor**  
 10                   **and the minor's parents or guardian with the opportunity to develop**  
 11                   **respect for the ethnic, cultural, and personal diversity of all persons of the**  
 12                   **state.**

13           \* **Sec. 15.** AS 47.12 is amended by adding a new section to article 5 to read:

14                   **Sec. 47.12.970. Diversity tolerance program.** The department shall develop  
 15                   and implement, or designate, in cooperation with other state, local, tribal, and  
 16                   nonprofit public service agencies, a diversity tolerance program that provides  
 17                   resources for developing respect for ethnic, cultural, and personal diversity, and that is  
 18                   designed for persons under 18 years of age who have been referred to the program  
 19                   under this chapter in connection with conduct by a minor that is motivated by a  
 20                   person's actual or perceived race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability,  
 21                   sexual orientation, ancestry, or national origin.

22           \* **Sec. 16.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
 23           read:

24                   **APPLICABILITY.** This Act applies to offenses or acts committed on or after the  
 25                   effective date of this Act.

26           \* **Sec. 17.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).