

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
April 12, 2005
3:10 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Meyer called the House Finance Committee meeting to order at [3:10:56 PM](#).

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Mike Chenault, Co-Chair
Representative Kevin Meyer, Co-Chair
Representative Bill Stoltze, Vice-Chair
Representative Eric Croft
Representative Richard Foster
Representative Mike Hawker
Representative Jim Holm
Representative Mike Kelly
Representative Carl Moses
Representative Bruce Weyhrauch

MEMBERS ABSENT

Representative Reggie Joule

ALSO PRESENT

Representative Lesil McGuire, Sponsor; Representative Jay Ramras; Dick Mylius, Deputy Director, Division of Mining Land and Water, Department of Natural Resources; Pete Kelly, Director, State Relations, University of Alaska; Moira Smith, Staff, Representative Woodie Salmon; Stephanie Birch, Section Chief, Women's, Children's and Family Health Care Services, Division of Public Health, Department of Health & Social Services; Jane Pierson, Staff, Representative Jay Ramras

PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

Dr. Don Rogers, Anchorage; Officer Mike Couturier, Vice-President, Anchorage Police Department Employees Association, Anchorage

SUMMARY

#HB54
HB 54 An Act relating to bail review.

 HB 54 was POSTPONED.

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HB 109 An Act relating to establishing a screening, tracking, and intervention program related to the hearing ability of newborns and infants; providing an exemption to licensure as an audiologist for certain persons performing hearing screening tests; relating to insurance coverage for newborn and infant hearing screening; and providing for an effective date.

CS HB 109 (FIN) was reported out of Committee with a "do pass" recommendation and with a new fiscal note by the Department of Health & Social Services, a new indeterminate note by the Department of Education & Early Development and a new zero note by the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development.

HB 130 An Act granting certain state land to the University of Alaska and establishing the university research forest; and providing for an effective date.

CS HB 130 (FIN) was reported out of Committee with a "no recommendation". a House Finance Committee Letter of Intent, zero note #1 by the Department of Fish & Game, fiscal note #2 by the Department of Law, fiscal note #3 by the Department of Natural Resources and fiscal note #4 by the University of Alaska.

HB 210 An Act relating to blood testing of certain persons alleged to have committed certain offenses directed toward peace officers or emergency workers.

CS HB 210 (JUD) was reported out of Committee with a "do pass" recommendation and with zero note #1 by the Alaska Court System, zero note #2 by the Department of Corrections, zero note #3 by the Department of Law and zero note #4 by the Department of Public Safety.

HB 225 An Act relating to medical examiners and medical death examinations.

HB 225 was reported out of Committee with a "no recommendation" and with zero note #1 by the Department of Health & Social Services.

[3:11:37 PM](#)

#HB130

HOUSE BILL NO. 130

An Act granting certain state land to the University of Alaska and establishing the university research forest; and providing for an effective date.

Co-Chair Chenault MOVED to ADOPT work draft #24-GH1034\X, Bullock, 4/12/05, as the version of the legislation before the Committee. There being NO OBJECTION, it was adopted.

Representative Weyhrauch explained the changes, deleting Page 6, Lines 12-18; deleting Page 6, Lines 25-26; Page 7, Line 5, deleting "shall"; Page 7, Line 6, deleting material after (1) and inserting "shall"; Page 7, Line 7, after (2) inserting "may".

[3:15:51 PM](#)

He indicated that the Native allotment language had been added back and the lands conveyed are included under Subsection (e), which simplified the bill.

Representative Weyhrauch noted that initial testimony related to the 250,000 acres in the bill. The draft committee substitute identifies specific parcels outlined in Subsections N & O on Pages 5 & 6. Those sections remove parcels based on that information.

In adopting the committee substitute, it became a public policy call that the University receives land for development, promotes private investment and increases the tax base of the State. All those things must overlay with concerns regarding quick development and insure that the communities that have lands adjacent can get the lands for borough formation. Subsection N identifies parcels that would be deleted from University lands while Subsection O addresses if a borough forms. The language provides a four-year opportunity for specifically Wrangell and Petersburg so they can move forward in forming boroughs.

[3:19:07 PM](#)

Representative Weyhrauch informed members that there are more requests for exclusion of certain lands.

[3:20:29 PM](#)

Representative Weyhrauch addressed language on Page 7, Subsection C, before the Board of Regents offers a parcel for sale, they "shall" offer the right of first refusal to the municipality. That language encourages and allows the Board of Regent to give the first right of refusal to develop land for municipal purposes. The second thing it does is offer the second right of refusal to non-profit organizations to develop the land for purposes consistent for historic uses. That would be a discretionary offer. In

the Committee's Letter of Intent, it does not indicate that the University should convey land to a non-profit corporation for conservation uses or non-productive purposes. He noted he had worked closely with the University of Alaska on that language.

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Representative Weyhrauch addressed the Letter of Intent, which indicates that land, conveyed for the Coldfoot node area would not be used for businesses that would compete with other business already there. He explained why that language had been included in the Letter of Intent and not in the body of the bill. The Department of Natural Resources and the University of Alaska are working out arrangements for the provision.

Representative Weyhrauch advised that Sections #1 and #2 inserted in the House Resources Committee had been deleted in the proposed committee substitute.

[3:24:32 PM](#)

DICK MYLIUS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF MINING LAND AND WATER, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, stated that the Department is "generally satisfied" with the changes, however, he had not yet seen the committee substitute nor the Letter of Intent.

Representative Croft questioned making the change from "shall" to "may". Representative Weyhrauch referenced Subsection C, Page 7, explaining that language was:

- When the University receives the lands from the Department of Natural Resources and they decide to dispense of them, they must offer the first right of refusal to the closest municipality; and
- They may offer the second right of refusal to a non-profit organization.

Representative Weyhrauch continued, Version X does not include all lands that Wrangell and Petersburg want.

[3:29:20 PM](#)

Representative Croft pointed out that the old version used "shall". Representative Weyhrauch explained that "shall" was used in the version to which statewide testimony had been taken on April 9th. He noted that "may" had replaced "shall" in the version before the Committee as requested by the University.

[3:30:11 PM](#)

PETE KELLY, DIRECTOR, STATE RELATIONS, UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, commented that the changes seemed consistent with conversations between Representative Weyrauch, the University and the Department of Natural Resources. He pointed out concern on Page 2, regarding the duties of the Board as the new language represents a departure from the rules for that board. He thought that it would direct the resources from the University's budget in statute rather than through an appropriations bill.

Representative Weyrauch responded that the duties of the University's Board of Regents could insure that they adequately fund the Cooperative Extension Service. The University "shall" hire any vacant position within the Cooperative Extension Service within 90-days of vacancy. That language was removed because of concerns from the University. However, the duties of the Board of Regents to insure that the Cooperative Extension Service is staffed are broader language and became the compromise.

Representative Weyrauch believed that the entire "notion" of the University lands bill would generate income to the University of Alaska. That is integrative to the public support of the University and the public's support of a strong and healthy University system. He thought that one of the best ways would be to work with the Cooperative Extension Service.

[3:33:57 PM](#)

Mr. Kelly interjected that the Board of Regents duties are very broad; they do not get into the hiring of chancellors or vice presidents, however, the proposed version regulates that the Board of Regents "shall" attend to specific staffing of a low level position. That would be directing appropriations, which is a far departure for the duties of the Board of Regents.

[3:34:58 PM](#)

Representative Croft asked the relationship between the Cooperative Extension Service and the management of the proposed lands. Representative Weyrauch emphasized that the lands are connected to the people and the people use those lands.

[3:36:12 PM](#)

Co-Chair Meyer asked if the University was willing to accept that "fit". Mr. Kelly replied that the University does not accept the language. He stressed that this is a lands bill and that the proposed language could fit under the title. He reiterated that inclusion of that language would make the

bill address duties for the Board of Regents. There is a far distance between the general duties of the Legislature and the specific duties for such a low level position.

[3:36:58 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Stoltze appreciated the proposed language.

Co-Chair Meyer stated the language would remain in the bill and if a Committee member wanted to make an amendment, they could.

[3:37:44 PM](#)

Representative Moses MOVED to ADOPT Amendment #1, #24-GH1034\F.4, Bullock, 4/8/05. Vice-Chair Stoltze OBJECTED.

MOIRA SMITH, STAFF, REPRESENTATIVE WOODIE SALMON, explained the amendment, which takes into consideration testimony received from residents in and around McCarthy regarding the land in that area intended to be transferred to the University of Alaska. The residents are opposed to that land being included.

Co-Chair Chenault inquired what that area currently was being used for. Ms. Smith responded that it is used primarily for gravel and wood. Currently, those residents apply for permits from the Department of Natural Resources to extract gravel and take wood. Co-Chair Chenault inquired if the residents tend to own their own lands. Ms. Smith believed that many of them do. She noted that the amendment would add a new parcel to the list.

Mr. Mylius interjected that the bill must come up with 250,000 acres in order to make the requested amount for the University. The McCarthy parcel that is being requested is 12,500 acres. He stated that the Department of Natural Resources was opposed to the amendment.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Croft, Foster, Moses
OPPOSED: Hawker, Holm, Kelly, Stoltze, Weyhrauch,
Chenault, Meyer

Representative Joule was not present for the vote.

The MOTION FAILED (3-7).

[3:42:22 PM](#)

Representative Croft clarified the changes necessary to Amendment #2 in order that it fit the version before the Committee.

[3:43:31 PM](#)

Representative Croft MOVED to ADOPT Amendment #2, #24-HB1034\L.2, Bullock, 4/12/05. Vice Chair Stoltze OBJECTED.

Representative Croft stated that Amendment #2 would provide a change in direction for the legislation. He acknowledged that if the lands were in the University's hands, they would be more aggressive in their management. When addressing State lands that have not been developed to the support of the people of Alaska, is not okay. By giving the University, Point Thomson, the University might be more successful in getting the value from that resource production. He declared there was no better potential the State could offer.

Representative Croft pointed out that the amount of funding needed by the University is substantial at \$225 million dollars a year. Let the University do the development that has so far eluded the State. If the State develops it, the University could continue the arrangement and in addition, 25% of the remainder would go into a trust fund. He acknowledged that the amendment was aggressive, but suggested what is needed is "real development with real resources".

[3:48:38 PM](#)

Co-Chair Meyer pointed out that the amendment would totally change the direction of the bill. He asked the State's share of Pt. Thomson. Representative Croft replied that they would own the land. The University is a State entity. The Legislature can transfer State lands or sub-surface rights between the pockets of State government entities.

Co-Chair Meyer recalled that the area is Exxon's gas field. Representative Croft advised that the State of Alaska owns the land and it is leased out.

Representative Holm questioned if it is possible to transfer the sub-surface rights.

[3:50:26 PM](#)

Mr. Mylius responded that the Legislature could do that. The prohibition of transferring the mineral, oil and/or gas rights is somewhat restricting and that it could not be transferred to an out of State ownership. Since the University is an entity of the State, legally it could be done; however, he clarified that the Department of Natural Resources does not support the amendment.

Representative Kelly thought that the proposed amendment would destroy the bill.

Representative Weyhrauch hoped that the State could endow the University with income producing properties to help make it a wealthy institution so that it could do all the necessary research programs. He aspired to that. He thought that the amendment sometime could provide that seed; however, said it would be better in another bill at another time. He indicated that he would support pursuing that idea.

Co-Chair Meyer agreed.

[3:53:39 PM](#)

Representative Croft distributed a handout: "The 15-year Forecast of Point Thomson Unit Royalty Revenues" from the Department of Natural Resources projections. (Copy on File). He disagreed that Amendment #2 would be a major shift of direction for the bill. If the University could get that land, it could be more aggressive. There could be \$1.2 billion dollars in that trust fund; nothing in the proposed bill could come close to that amount. He urged reconsideration of the amendment.

Representative Croft pointed out how the University of Texas had obtained their wealth from sub-surface rights. He thought that the amendment encourages an alternative and that the core title of the bill would continue to be the same. The Senate could place other parcels back into the bill.

Representative Croft referenced the suggestion of creating a new bill including the concept and questioned why do that. Since the University needs substantial funding and if development is important, then the University would be more aggressive getting it done. The amendment should be adopted. He commented that the amendment provides an opportunity to do the largest land grant for the University. He urged that the Legislature "put their money where mouths are".

[3:58:38 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Stoltze understood that the bill was a companion to federal legislation and asked how it could merge with the federal proposal. Representative Croft replied that he had spoken with the Department of Natural Resources and if the State gives 250,000 acres, the federal government would match that. If the State put up the Point Thomson land that would not qualify under that bill; however, if the State did put up Point Thomson, it would be known that land had greater potential than the other. He did not think it would

be an impediment, but would indicate that the State of Alaska was doing a significant amount to provide land at that value.

[4:00:38 PM](#)

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Moses, Croft
OPPOSED: Foster, Hawker, Holm, Kelly, Stolze,
Weyhrauch, Meyer, Chenault

Representative Joule was not present for the vote

The MOTION FAILED (2-8).

[4:01:42 PM](#)

Representative Foster MOVED to DELETE language on Page 2, Lines 24-25: "ensure that the University of Alaska's Cooperative Extension Service is adequately staffed to meet the needs of the public". Vice-Chair Stoltze OBJECTED.

Representative Weyhrauch explained that the purpose of the bill is to deal with land and resources in the State of Alaska. The Board of Regents is in charge of governing those lands. The agency between public lands and the University is the Cooperative Extension Service. He urged inclusion of that language. Vice-Chair Stoltze added that the language was a good way to remind the University of their obligation to public lands.

[4:03:53 PM](#)

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Kelly, Croft, Foster, Chenault, Meyer
OPPOSED: Hawker, Holm, Moses, Stoltze, Weyhrauch

Representative Joule was not present for the vote

The MOTION FAILED (5-5).

[4:05:17 PM](#)

Representative Weyhrauch pointed out that the Committee had received much attention regarding inclusion of Thoms Place near Wrangell.

[4:05:52 PM](#)

Representative Foster MOVED to report CS HB 130 (FIN) out of Committee, the House Finance Committee Letter of Intent,

with individual recommendations and the accompanying fiscal notes. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

CS HB 130 (FIN) was reported out of Committee with a "no recommendation", a House Finance Committee Letter of Intent, a zero note #1 by the Department of Fish & Game, fiscal note #2 by the Department of Law, fiscal note #3 by the Department of Natural Resources and fiscal note #4 by the University of Alaska.

AT EASE: [4:06:41 PM](#)

RECONVENE: [4:13:09 PM](#)

#HB109

HOUSE BILL NO. 109

An Act relating to establishing a screening, tracking, and intervention program related to the hearing ability of newborns and infants; providing an exemption to licensure as an audiologist for certain persons performing hearing screening tests; relating to insurance coverage for newborn and infant hearing screening; and providing for an effective date.

[4:14:12 PM](#)

Co-Chair Meyer inquired about the Department of Health & Social Services fiscal note.

STEPHANIE BIRCH, SECTION CHIEF, WOMEN'S, CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY HEALTH CARE SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES, explained that the finance portion of the bill would change in 2008. The Division has been successful in the last four years by being awarded two federal grants; however, the second grant is scheduled to expire in 2008. The half time positions funded uses federal grant money and would be lost. The program manager runs the program that tracks all newborns, which is mandated by the State.

Co-Chair Meyer referenced Page 2 of the fiscal note. Ms. Birch clarified where those funds would pay for the early intervention programs and would primarily be treatment services. The Early Intervention Program has a newborn hearing screening service for children needing hearing support services. Co-Chair Meyer asked about the half-time position and if it would be picked up by the State general fund.

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In response to Vice-Chair Stoltze, Ms. Birch explained that the newborn screening program has been in effect since 1998

in many hospitals. At present time, 23 communities have that screening equipment in their hospitals. Through federal funding, the Division purchased additional equipment for nine communities. The screening test prices range between \$20 and \$40 dollars and no money is paid to providers. The federal grants provided equipment and training.

[4:19:52 PM](#)

Representative Hawker indicated his confusion with the fiscal note, the language regarding that "public record and requiring a "reporting and surveillance system for tracking all newborns". He questioned that choice of words, recommending that the verbiage be revised.

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REPRESENTATIVE JAY RAMRAS, SPONSOR, shared concerns with personal privacy issues. He understood that the legislation would provide statistical tracking of the number of newborns needing services for congenital birth defects. He assured members that the intent was not to use surveillance.

Ms. Birch interjected that the word "surveillance" is used as a public health term and is one of the four functions of public health. The intention is to determine how large the statewide problem is by having a methodology.

[4:24:42 PM](#)

Representative Hawker pointed out an additional provision in the bill, which could solve some problems. The Department proposed that Subsection G be deleted and asked if that had happened. Ms. Birch replied that in the House Labor and Commerce version, on Page 5, Lines 15-19, there was wording in the original bill, discussing how the Department would track any newborns needing financial support. She clarified that the payment methodology was established in a recently revised Medicaid manual. It would not be feasible for the Department to take on the reimbursement costs to the hospitals.

Representative Hawker asked if Subsection G had been eliminated from the bill. Ms. Birch affirmed.

[4:26:47 PM](#)

Representative Hawker suggested that the fiscal note should indicate removal of that language.

Co-Chair Meyer requested a more detailed budget outline starting with FY08.

[4:27:35 PM](#)

Representative Holm asked if there would there be savings at some point, noting it was not indicated in the fiscal note.

[4:29:02 PM](#)

Representative Ramras appreciated the remarks. He stated that if the birth defect condition were caught early, the State would be able to mitigate some hearing loss to diminish the severity and cognitive development of the young child. By the time the child hits school age, they become a problem of the State of Alaska through one mechanism or another. He believed that there would be a positive fiscal note showing savings to the State at some point.

[4:30:40 PM](#)

Ms. Birch advised that it had not been reflected in the fiscal note, however, she had looked at Medicaid claims for children who had received treatment in FY03 and FY04. There were a total of 946 recipients with an average cost of \$582 dollars each. The number compares to about \$760 dollars each in FY02. The preliminary review indicates that if caught early, treatment dollars required for these children would decrease.

Representative Holm thought that information should be reflected in the fiscal note.

Representative Ramras commented that they could work on that as the bill makes its way to the other body.

[4:33:16 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Stoltze suggested the note indicate indeterminate.

Representative Hawker referenced Page 5, Lines 12-19, stating that the parent could opt out of the procedure if it conflicts with a religious tenet of that family. He warned that language could deny a parent the right to object on grounds other than religious.

[4:34:59 PM](#)

Representative Ramras stated there was no disagreement in modifying that language. The verbiage was lifted from regulations in the Newborn Metabolic Screening.

Representative Hawker MOVED to ADOPT conceptual Amendment #1, Page 5, Line 15, following "religious" adding language "or other". There being NO OBJECTION, it was adopted.

Representative Foster MOVED to report HB 109 out of Committee with individual recommendations and with the accompanying fiscal notes. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

CS HB 109 (FIN) was reported out of Committee with a "do pass" recommendation and with a new fiscal note by the Department of Health & Social Services, a new indeterminate note by the Department of Education & Early Development and a new zero note by the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development.

4:37:00 PM

#HB225

HOUSE BILL NO. 225

An Act relating to medical examiners and medical death examinations.

REPRESENTATIVE LESIL MCGUIRE, SPONSOR, noted that last year alone, there were nearly 1,100 cases filed with the State of Alaska's medical examiner's office. All of the cases require responsibilities ranging from autopsies, administrative duties and legal responsibilities. With such a sizeable caseload, one more medical examiner is needed.

The one State medical examiner has been stretched thin with the caseload. Currently autopsies are required only when the death was suspicious or if there was a crime involved. When forced to pick and choose cases, something could be overlooked in the remaining cases that did not receive needed attention. Additional consideration needs to be given to what happens if medical examiners became ill or for any reason cannot fulfill their duties.

Representative McGuire continued that the position of the State medical examiner is a critical function in the State and has a tremendous responsibility. The fact that there is such as large caseload for only one medical examiner has become a growing concern for policy makers, law enforcement officials and the community. Under current State law, the commissioner of Department of Health & Social Services is required to appoint only a medical examiner. HB 225 would require that the commissioner appoint both a chief medical examiner and a deputy medical examiner to share the extensive workload.

4:40:47 PM

OFFICER MIKE COUTURIER, (TESTIFIED VIA TELECONFERENCE), VICE-PRESIDENT, ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, ANCHORAGE, voiced the Department's need and support for a new deputy medical examiner. There is an operative margin for first time responders for the City of

Anchorage and the State at large. He urged the Committee's support.

[4:44:40 PM](#)

DR. DON ROGERS, (TESTIFIED VIA TELECONFERENCE), CORONER, ANCHORAGE, spoke in support of the bill. He pointed out that when the function was shifted from the Court System to the Department of Health & Social Services, the coroners were instructed to do less; they, at that time, were doing more autopsies than anyone in the country. He pointed out that until an autopsy is performed, the family does not know whether it is needed or not. He added that he performs approximately 25 autopsies per year; most are people that die suddenly and/or unexpectedly. He recommended that there needs to be a change of policy within the Department of Health & Social Services and the bill would help to address that policy. He urged support of the legislation.

[4:47:01 PM](#)

Representative Hawker indicated that the subcommittee had attempted for two years to get the funding into the budget for the position. He noted that the House had included the \$100 thousand dollar funding, however, it did not survive the Senate.

[4:47:47 PM](#)

Co-Chair Meyer pointed out that the fiscal note does not indicate the request in the 2006 budget. He noted for the record that the House intends to fund the position and that it will be addressed in Conference Committee.

[4:48:44 PM](#)

Co-Chair Chenault commented that it is a justifiable position and that the Legislature should mandate that the Department's commissioner to address it.

Co-Chair Meyer suggested the note be modified. Representative Hawker did not think the bill should require additional personnel.

[4:50:29 PM](#)

Representative McGuire agreed with the comments of Representative Hawker. If the Department wanted to pull someone from within the ranks and make them deputy medical examiner, that could work. She noted that it was not the intent to micromanage the Division.

[4:51:36 PM](#)

Representative Hawker recommended that the note as written, suits the system.

Representative Kelly agreed it should be addressed, however, cautioned that the language should indicate the Committee's intent.

Representative Foster MOVED to report HB 225 out of Committee with individual recommendations and with the accompanying fiscal note. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

HB 225 was reported out of Committee with a "no recommendation" and with zero note #1 by the Department of Health & Social Services.

[4:53:08 PM](#)

#HB210

HOUSE BILL NO. 210

An Act relating to blood testing of certain persons alleged to have committed certain offenses directed toward peace officers or emergency workers.

REPRESENTATIVE LESIL MCGUIRE, SPONSOR, stated that HB 210 takes policies and procedures for testing for blood borne pathogen exposure to correctional officers that was passed by the 23rd Alaskan Legislature and expands it to include peace officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and mobile paramedics.

The bill first establishes procedures for determining if the first responders were exposed to blood borne pathogens in the course of their work. Once it is reasonably concluded that such exposure has occurred, the bill sets procedures for obtaining the consent of the person who exposed the first responder to have their blood tested. These procedures protect the identity of the person tested and pass on only the results of the test to the first responder exposed to the blood borne pathogens. The results of the test are also passed on to the person tested.

Representative McGuire noted that the bill also provides procedures for court ordered testing of the person who exposed the first responder to blood borne pathogens if that person refuses to be tested. The bill does not enact any new policies or procedures for blood borne pathogen testing.

[4:54:40 PM](#)

Representative McGuire continued comments. She referenced Page 4, Section 3, which is the area that has been most questionable. She thought that the process had been well

thought out. The definition of a juvenile offender can be found in Title 47: "A delinquent minor is someone under the age of 18 and who is determined by the Court to be a delinquent minor as a result of violating criminal law of the State of municipality".

[4:56:40 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Stoltze asked if there was any ambiguity between a juvenile and a delinquent minor. Representative McGuire stated there was not.

[4:58:34 PM](#)

OFFICER MIKE COUTURIER, (TESTIFIED VIA TELECONFERENCE), VICE-PRESIDENT, ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, ANCHORAGE, spoke in support of the legislation. The bill would provide for the testing of an officer and the individual exposed. The provisions follow those from other states.

[5:00:02 PM](#)

Co-Chair Chenault questioned if probation officers are included under the definition of Peace Officers. Representative McGuire stated that language on Page 7, Lines 4-8, indicates they would be covered.

Representative Holm inquired if officers would be required to be tested. Representative McGuire did not think that any officer had refused to be tested.

[5:02:11 PM](#)

Officer Couturier explained that the policy was testing for exposure to bodily fluids. He pointed out that HIV testing actually takes 72 hours and that he could not imagine a police office refusing the test.

Representative Foster MOVED to report HB 210 out of Committee with individual recommendations and with the accompanying fiscal notes. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

CS HB 210 (JUD) was reported out of Committee with a "do pass" recommendation and with zero note #1 by the Alaska Court System, zero note #2 by the Department of Corrections, zero note #3 by the Department of Law and zero note #4 by the Department of Public Safety.

#

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 P.M.