

HOUSE BILL NO. 297

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE EASTMAN

Introduced: 2/24/20

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the crimes of coercion and bribery involving legislators; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 11.41.530(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A person commits the crime of coercion if the person compels another to
6 engage in conduct from which there is a legal right to abstain or abstain from conduct
7 in which there is a legal right to engage, by means of instilling in the person who is
8 compelled a fear that, if the demand is not complied with, the person who makes the
9 demand or another may

10 (1) inflict physical injury on anyone, except under circumstances
11 constituting robbery in any degree, or commit any other crime;

12 (2) accuse anyone of a crime;

13 (3) expose confidential information or a secret, whether true or false,
14 tending to subject a person to hatred, contempt, or ridicule or to impair the person's

1 credit or business repute;

2 (4) take or withhold action as a public servant or cause a public servant
3 to take or withhold action;

4 (5) bring about or continue a strike, boycott, or other collective
5 unofficial action, if the property is not demanded or received for the benefit of the
6 group in whose interest the person making the threat or suggestion purports to act;

7 (6) testify or provide information or withhold testimony or information
8 with respect to a person's legal claim or defense;

9 **(7) take or withhold action against a legislator or cause a person to**
10 **take or withhold action against a legislator, including a reduction in staff, travel**
11 **authorization, committee assignment, and a favorable position in a legislative**
12 **caucus.**

13 * **Sec. 2.** AS 11.56.100(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) A person commits the crime of bribery if the person confers, offers to
15 confer, or agrees to confer a benefit upon a public servant with the intent to

16 **(1) influence the public servant's vote, opinion, judgment, action,**
17 **decision, or exercise of official discretion; or**

18 **(2) bind a legislator's vote on any measure.**

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

21 APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to offenses committed on or after the effective
22 date of this Act.

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