

Introduced: 1/25/85
Referred: Health, Education & Social Services
Judiciary

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

2

SENATE BILL NO. 102

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to criminal sentences."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 11.31.100(d) is amended to read:

9 (d) Unless otherwise provided, an [AN] attempt is a

10 (1) class A felony if the crime attempted is an unclas-
11 sified felony;

12 (2) class B felony if the crime attempted is a class A
13 felony;

14 (3) class C felony if the crime attempted is a class B
15 felony;

16 (4) class A misdemeanor if the crime attempted is a class C
17 felony;

18 (5) class B misdemeanor if the crime attempted is a class A
19 or class B misdemeanor.

20 * Sec. 2. AS 11.31.100 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

21 (e) An attempt to commit murder in the first degree is an un-
22 classified felony and is punishable as provided in AS 12.55.

23 * Sec. 3. AS 11.31.110(c) is amended to read:

24 (c) Unless otherwise provided, solicitation [SOLICITATION] is a

25 (1) class A felony if the crime solicited is an unclas-
26 sified felony;

27 (2) class B felony if the crime solicited is a class A
28 felony;

29 (3) class C felony if the crime solicited is a class B

1 felony;

2 (4) class A misdemeanor if the crime solicited is a class C
3 felony;

4 (5) class B misdemeanor if the crime solicited is a class A
5 or class B misdemeanor.

6 * Sec. 4. AS 11.31.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

7 (e) Solicitation to commit murder in the first or second degree
8 is an unclassified felony and is punishable as provided in AS 12.55.

9 * Sec. 5. AS 11.41.130(b) is amended to read:

10 (b) Criminally negligent homicide is a class B [C] felony.

11 * Sec. 6. AS 11.81.250 is amended to read:

12 Sec. 11.81.250. CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES. (a) For purposes
13 of sentencing under AS 12.55, all offenses defined in this title,
14 except unclassified offenses [MURDER IN THE FIRST AND SECOND DEGREE,
15 SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE, AND KIDNAPPING], are classified on
16 the basis of their seriousness, according to the type of injury char-
17 acteristically caused or risked by commission of the offense and the
18 culpability of the offender. Except for unclassified offenses [MURDER
19 IN THE FIRST AND SECOND DEGREE, SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE,
20 AND KIDNAPPING], the offenses in this title are classified into the
21 following categories:

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

25 (2) class B felonies, which characteristically involve
26 conduct resulting in less severe violence against a person than class
27 A felonies, aggravated offenses against property interests, or ag-
28 gravated offenses against public administration or order;

29 (3) class C felonies, which characteristically involve

1 conduct serious enough to deserve felony classification but not seri-
2 ous enough to be classified as A or B felonies;

3 (4) class A misdemeanors, which characteristically involve
4 less severe violence against a person, less serious offenses against
5 property interests, less serious offenses against public adminis-
6 tration or order, or less serious offenses against public health and
7 decency than felonies;

8 (5) class B misdemeanors, which characteristically involve
9 a minor risk or physical injury to a person, minor offenses against
10 property interests, minor offenses against public administration or
11 order, or minor offenses against public health and decency;

12 (6) violations, which characteristically involve conduct
13 inappropriate to an orderly society but which do not denote criminal-
14 ity in their commission.

15 (b) The classification of each felony defined in this title,
16 except unclassified offenses [MURDER IN THE FIRST AND SECOND DEGREE,
17 SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE, AND KIDNAPPING], is designated in
18 the section defining it. A felony under Alaska law defined outside
19 this title for which no penalty is specifically provided is a class C
20 felony.

21 (c) The classification of each misdemeanor defined in this title
22 is designated in the section defining it. A misdemeanor under Alaska
23 law defined outside this title for which no penalty is provided is a
24 class A misdemeanor.

25 * Sec. 7. AS 12.55.035(b) is amended to read:

26 (b) Upon conviction of an offense, a defendant who is not an
27 organization may be sentenced to pay, unless otherwise specified in
28 the provision of law defining the offense, a fine of no more than

29 (1) \$75,000 for an unclassified felony [MURDER IN THE FIRST

1 OR SECOND DEGREE, SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE, KIDNAPPING, OR
2 MISCONDUCT INVOLVING A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IN THE FIRST DEGREE];

- 3 (2) \$50,000 for a class A, B, or C felony;
4 (3) \$5,000 for a class A misdemeanor;
5 (4) \$1,000 for a class B misdemeanor;
6 (5) \$300 for a violation.

7 * Sec. 8. AS 12.55.125(c) is amended to read:

8 (c) A defendant convicted of a class A felony may be sentenced
9 to a definite term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years, and must
10 [SHALL] be sentenced to the following presumptive terms, subject to
11 adjustment as provided in AS 12.55.155 -- 12.55.175:

12 (1) if the offense is a first felony conviction and does
13 not involve circumstances described in (2) of this subsection, five
14 years;

15 (2) if the offense is a first felony conviction, [OTHER
16 THAN FOR MANSLAUGHTER,] and the defendant possessed a firearm, used a
17 dangerous instrument, or caused serious physical injury during the
18 commission of the offense, or knowingly directed the conduct con-
19 stituting the offense at a uniformed or otherwise clearly identified
20 peace officer, fire fighter, correctional officer, emergency medical
21 technician, paramedic, ambulance attendant, or other emergency
22 responder who was engaged in the performance of official duties at the
23 time of the offense, seven years;

24 (3) if the offense is a second felony conviction, 10 years;

25 (4) if the offense is a third felony conviction, 15 years.

26 * Sec. 9. AS 12.55.125(g) is amended to read:

27 (g) If a defendant is sentenced to a presumptive term under
28 [(c), (d)(1), (d)(2), (e)(1), (e)(2), OR (i) OF] this section, except
29 to the extent permitted under AS 12.55.155 -- 12.55.175,

- 1 (1) imprisonment may not be suspended under AS 12.55.080;
2 (2) imposition of sentence may not be suspended under
3 AS 12.55.085;
4 (3) terms of imprisonment may not be otherwise reduced.

5 * Sec. 10. AS 12.55.125 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (j) A defendant convicted of attempted murder or solicitation to
7 commit murder may be sentenced to a definite term of imprisonment of
8 not more than 30 years, and must be sentenced to the following pre-
9 sumptive terms, subject to adjustment as provided in AS 12.55.155 --
10 12.55.175:

11 (1) if the offense is a first felony conviction and does
12 not involve circumstances described in (2) of this subsection, eight
13 years;

14 (2) if the offense is a first felony conviction, and the
15 defendant possessed a firearm, used a dangerous instrument, or caused
16 serious physical injury during the commission of the offense, 10
17 years;

18 (3) if the offense is a second felony conviction, 15 years;

19 (4) if the offense is a third felony conviction, 25 years.

20 * Sec. 11. AS 12.55.145(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) For purposes of considering prior convictions in imposing
22 sentence under AS 12.55.125 [12.55.125(c), (d)(1), (d)(2), (e)(1),
23 (e)(2), OR (i)]

24 (1) a prior conviction may not be considered if a period of
25 10 or more years has elapsed between the date of the defendant's
26 unconditional discharge on the immediately preceding offense and
27 commission of the present offense unless the prior conviction was for
28 an unclassified or class A felony;

29 (2) a conviction in this or another jurisdiction of an

1 offense having elements similar to those of a felony defined as such
2 under Alaska law at the time the offense was committed is considered a
3 prior felony conviction;

4 (3) two or more convictions arising out of a single, con-
5 tinuous criminal episode during which there was no substantial change
6 in the nature of the criminal objective are considered a single con-
7 viction unless the defendant was sentenced to consecutive sentences
8 for the crimes; offenses committed while attempting to escape or avoid
9 detection or apprehension after the commission of another offense are
10 not part of the same criminal episode or objective.

11 * Sec. 12. AS 12.55.145(c) is amended to read:

12 (c) If the defendant denies the authenticity of a prior judgment
13 of conviction, that the defendant is the person named in the judgment,
14 that the elements of a prior offense committed in another jurisdiction
15 are similar [SUBSTANTIALLY IDENTICAL] to those of a felony defined as
16 such under Alaska law, or that a prior conviction occurred within the
17 period specified in (a)(1) of this section or if the defendant alleges
18 that two or more purportedly separate prior convictions should be
19 considered a single conviction under (a)(3) of this section, the
20 defendant shall file with the court and serve on the prosecuting
21 attorney notice of denial no later than 10 days before the date set
22 for imposition of sentence. The notice of denial must [SHALL] include
23 a concise statement of the grounds relied upon and may be supported by
24 affidavit or other documentary evidence.

25 * Sec. 13. AS 12.55.155(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) If a defendant is convicted of an offense and is subject to
27 a presumptive term [SENTENCING] under AS 12.55.125 [12.55.125(c),
28 (d)(1), (d)(2), (e)(1), (e)(2), OR (i)] and

29 (1) the presumptive term is four years or less, the court

1 may decrease the presumptive term by an amount as great as the pre-
2 sumptive term for factors in mitigation or may increase the presump-
3 tive term up to the maximum term of imprisonment for factors in aggra-
4 vation;

5 (2) the presumptive term of imprisonment is more than four
6 years, the court may decrease the presumptive term by an amount as
7 great as 50 percent of the presumptive term for factors in mitigation
8 or may increase the presumptive term up to the maximum term of impris-
9 onment for factors in aggravation.

10 * Sec. 14. AS 12.55.165 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 12.55.165. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES. If the defendant
12 is subject to a presumptive term [SENTENCING] under AS 12.55.125
13 [12.55.125(c), (d)(1), (d)(2), (e)(1), (e)(2), OR (i)] and the court
14 finds by clear and convincing evidence that manifest injustice would
15 result from failure to consider relevant aggravating or mitigating
16 factors not specifically included in AS 12.55.155 or from imposition
17 of the presumptive term, whether or not adjusted for aggravating or
18 mitigating factors, the court shall enter findings and conclusions and
19 cause a record of the proceedings to be transmitted to a three-judge
20 panel for sentencing under AS 12.55.175.