

HB

350

FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. HB 350

STATE OF ALASKA  
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 01/16/92 Department Affected: Public Safety  
 Title: Mandatory police protection BRU: Alaska State Troopers  
by cities. Component: Detachments  
 Sponsor: Rules Committee  
 Requestor: House CRA COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

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EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (inflation not included)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FUND SOURCE:						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
FUND SOURCE:						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

State Troopers presently assigned to areas that would be affected by this bill would be reassigned to other (mostly rural) areas where resources are not sufficient to meet the current demand for services.

Prepared By: Gayle A. Horetski Phone: 465-4322  
 Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 01/20/92  
 Approved by Commissioner: Richard L. Burton  
 Agency: Department of Public Safety Date: 01/20/92

Distribution (by preparer): Leg Fin., Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB/DBR, Gov. Legis. Ofc., & Impacted Agency(ies).

WALTER J. HICKEL  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

May 20, 1991

The Honorable Ben Grussendorf  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Speaker Grussendorf:

Under the authority of art. III. sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the exercise of police powers by certain general law and home rule cities and unified municipalities. If enacted, this bill will require cities with 2,000 or more residents to provide police protection and law enforcement services and will require all unified municipalities to provide these services on an areawide basis. The goal is to require municipal governments with sufficient population to assume the responsibility and expense of providing police protection to their citizens.

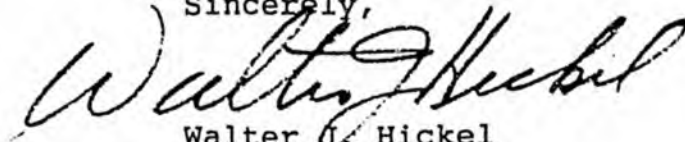
Several cities in the state currently provide the services required under this bill, while only one city of 2,000 or more residents does not (e.g. the City of Barrow, which receives police services from the North Slope Borough). In my opinion, cities with a population of at least 2,000 are of such a size that they are best suited to provide these services. It is not fair to allow some cities to escape the responsibilities so willingly shouldered by others. I am concerned that if this inequality continues, other cities will cease providing local police protection. An unanticipated decision to cease providing police protection would dramatically increase the cost to the state of providing police protection by the state troopers. This bill will maintain the status quo for the majority of cities while also forcing the few cities not currently providing police protection to assume and exercise police powers.

The Honorable Ben Grussendorf - 2 -

With respect to unified municipalities, the bill requires police powers to be exercised on an "areawide" basis, regardless of local decisions regarding the provision of police protection and law enforcement services.

I urge you to favorably consider this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter J. Hickel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Walter J. Hickel  
Governor

# STATE OF ALASKA

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

March 16, 1992

The Honorable Jerry Mackie  
Alaska State Legislature  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: HB 350, relating to Municipal Police Protection

Dear Representative Mackie:

HB 350, an act requiring certain cities and municipalities to provide local police protection, has been referred to the Community and Regional Affairs Committee. I am writing to respectfully request that the bill be scheduled for a hearing.

HB 350 requires unified municipalities and those cities with a population of 2,000 or more to exercise areawide police protection and law enforcement services. The effect of this bill would be to require the Municipality of Anchorage to assume police powers on an areawide basis, as well as to require the City of Wasilla to assume these powers. According to our information, every other city of 2,000 residents or larger (with the exception of Barrow, which receives police services from the North Slope Borough), currently exercises police powers.

The Municipality of Anchorage provides police services on a "nonareawide" basis and only to those service areas that have voted to be taxed by the municipality to have police services provided in the service area. The charter of the Municipality of Anchorage states that residents of service areas will not be provided with or taxed for certain services unless voted in by the residents. This includes police protection services. Therefore, service areas not covered by the municipality's police force are covered by the Alaska State Troopers, with the expense being borne completely by the state. Most notable is the Hillside area of the Municipality of Anchorage, a densely populated service area whose residents have repeatedly declined to pay for local police services. By requiring, in statute, that areawide police powers are to be exercised by unified

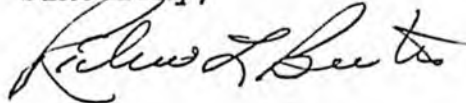
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municipalities, the Municipality of Anchorage will be forced to exercise this power areawide, regardless of service areas that have not voted to pay for the service and notwithstanding its charter.

In this period of rapidly declining state revenues, it seems especially appropriate to consider measures which would require cities that are stable and large enough to provide their own police protection to do so, thus freeing up extremely scarce State Trooper personnel to be reassigned to other (mainly rural) areas of the state.

Please call me if you have any questions about HB 350. We look forward to being able to discuss HB 350 with the Community and Regional Affairs Committee in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard L. Burton".

Richard L. Burton  
Commissioner

Home Rule/General Law Cities  
and Unified Municipalities With A  
Population of 2000 or more

Anchorage  
Juneau  
Sitka  
Cordova  
Fairbanks  
Kenai  
Ketchikan  
Kodiak  
Palmer  
Petersburg  
Seward  
Valdez  
Wrangell  
Barrow  
Dillingham  
Homer  
Nome  
Soldotna  
Unalaska  
Wasilla  
Bethel  
Kotzebue