

SB

351

HFIN

FILE

(11)

Date Referred: April 22, 1994

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT
FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/25/94

The FINANCE Committee considered:

SB 351

SENATE BILL NO. 351

CHARACTER EVIDENCE IN CRIMINAL TRIALS

"An Act amending Alaska Rule of Evidence 404, relating to the admissibility of certain character evidence in court proceedings."

- RECOMMENDATIONS: the same title
 be replaced with _____ a new title
- have attached amendments(s)
 do pass
 do not pass
 no recommendations
 individual recommendations
 additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) _____

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dep/Date) _____

fiscal impact _____

fiscal note(s) LAW, 3/19/94 DPS, 3/19/94

zero fiscal note _____

zero fiscal note(s) (2) DOA, 3/19/94

| SIGNING <u>DO PASS</u> | DP | OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS | DNP | NR | AM |
|---------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| <i>Eileen P. Macheen</i> Macheen | ✓ | <i>Tom Hoffman</i> Hoffman | | | |
| <i>Ronald L. Larson</i> Larson | X | | | | |
| <i>Mark Hanley</i> Hanley | X | | | | |
| <i>Terry Martin</i> Martin | X | | | | |
| <i>Alan Parrish</i> Parrish | X | | | | |
| <i>Ben Grussendorf</i> Grussendorf | X | | | | |
| <i>Mike Navarre</i> Navarre | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Lay Brown</i> Brown | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Gene Therriault</i> Therriault | X | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Ronald L. Larson E.P. Macheen
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

FISCAL NOTE

No. 2

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SB 351
(3) Publish Date: 3-9-94

Revision Date: February 15, 1994
Title: "...amending Alaska Rule of Evidence 404...
admissibility of certain character evidence..."
Sponsor: Rules/Request of Governor
Requestor: Governor's Office.

Department Affected: Department of Law
BRU: Prosecution
Component: All
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0085 through 0090

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

| OPERATING | FY 95 | FY 96 | FY 97 | FY 98 | FY 99 | FY 00 |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL | | | | | | |
| TRAVEL | | | | | | |
| CONTRACTUAL | | | | | | |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | | | | | |
| LAND & | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| REVENUE | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUNDING:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program | | | | | | |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | | | | | | |
| OTHER | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

POSITIONS:

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

Estimate of current year (FY94) impact: -0-

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)
Please see the attached analysis.

Prepared by: Richard T. Pegues, Director
Division: Administrative Services Division

Phone: 465-3672
Date: February 15, 1994

Approved by Commissioner: Bruce M. Botelho, Attorney General
Agency: Department of Law

Date: February 15, 1994

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. _____

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION:

This bill amends Alaska Rule of Evidence 404 in several important respects. First, the bill would help reduce the number of times a rape victim is "put on trial" by authorizing the admission into evidence of other sexual assaults by the defendant against the same or another person when the defendant relies on the defense of consent. A defendant who argues that the victim consented should not be able to hide behind Rule of Evidence 404(b) to keep the jury from learning that the defendant has assaulted other victims.

Second, with respect to sexual abuses or assaults against a minor, this bill removes from Rule of Evidence 404(b) confusing language -- "to show a common scheme or plan" -- that has been misinterpreted by several courts to exclude evidence meant to be allowed under the rule. The bill also specifies a 10-year time period as being not too remote for the admissibility of evidence of prior similar assaults or sexual abuse offenses committed by the defendant against minors.

Finally, this bill amends Rule of Evidence 404(a) to allow evidence of a defendant's reputation for aggression or violence when the defendant places the victim's character for violence in issue by claiming self-defense. A defendant who claims that the victim was the aggressor should not be able to hide behind Rule 404 to keep a jury from learning that the defendant has an even greater reputation for violence in the community.

Because the bill modifies the rules of evidence in a manner that will help level the playing field for state prosecutors, and does not add to or otherwise increase our workload, there will not be a fiscal impact.

FISCAL NOT

No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SB 351

(S) Publish Date: 3-9-94

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title: *An Act Relating to Evidence in Sexual BRU: Public Defender Agency
Assault Cases... Component: Public Defender Agency
 Sponsor: _____
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY95 | FY96 | FY97 | FY98 | FY99 | FY00 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TRAVEL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUPPLIES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EQUIPMENT | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1003 GF Match | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1004 GF | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of current year (FY94) cost: none

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: John Salemi, Public Defender Phone: 264-4400
 Division: Public Defender Agency Date: _____
 Approved by Commissioner: Nancy Bear Usura Date: 2/17/94
 Agency: Administration

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 3
Bill Version: 9B.351
(S) Publish Date: 3-9-94

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
Title: Evidence in Sexual Assault Cases BRU: Alaska State Troopers
Component: Detachments
Sponsor: Rules by Request
Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 799

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

| OPERATING | FY 95 | FY 96 | FY 97 | FY 98 | FY 99 | FY 00 |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | | | |
| TRAVEL | | | | | | |
| CONTRACTUAL | | | | | | |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | | | | | |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| <small>Revenue Code</small> | | | | | | |

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | | | | | | |
| Other | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

Estimate of current year (FY 94) impact: \$ _____

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Prepared By: Lee Ann Lucas Phone: 465-4322
 Division: Office of the Commissioner Date: 2/16/94
 Approved by Commissioner: *[Signature]* Date: _____
 Agency: Richard L. Britton, Dept. of Public Safety

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FISCAL NOTE

No. 4

Bill Version: SB.351

(S) Publish Date: 3-9-94

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title: "An Act Relating to Evidence in Sexual Assault Cases..." BRU: Office of Public Advocacy
 Sponsor: _____ Component: Office of Public Advocacy
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 43

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY95 | FY96 | FY97 | FY98 | FY99 | FY00 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TRAVEL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUPPLIES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EQUIPMENT | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1003 GF Match | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1004 GF | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of current year (FY94) cost: none

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Brant McGee, Public Advocate Phone: 274-1684
 Division: Office of Public Advocacy Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Nancy Bear Usura Date: 2/17/94
 Agency: Administration

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**GOVERNOR HICKEL'S
BILL TO PROTECT VICTIMS OF RAPE,
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND CHILD ABUSE
(SB 351 & HB 525)**

In far too many cases of rape, domestic violence, and child sexual abuse, Alaska's victims are often themselves "put on trial" in the course of criminal proceedings. The emotional trauma which such crime victims routinely suffer in the criminal justice system can in some cases be nearly as traumatic as the crime itself.

This legislation seeks to help solve these problems in several ways. First, it levels the playing field by amending the rules of evidence so that victims can't be "put on trial" by the accused rapist.

Defendants in rape cases used to claim that the rape simply didn't happen--that no sexual contact took place. Thankfully, today, scientific advances in both the gathering and analysis of forensic evidence such as human hair, blood, semen, skin scrapings and DNA have often made it much more difficult for accused rapists to use the "we never had sex" defense. The new defense is--while perhaps conceding that sexual contact did take place--attempting to put the rape victim on trial by claiming that the woman "consented" to sex.

In cases such as this--when the rapist claims the defense of "consent"--the rules should permit the State to stand up for the victim, and to rebut this claim by introducing evidence of the defendant's prior rapes.

Similarly, in cases of domestic violence and other violent assaults--such as cases involving a self-defense claim in which the defendant places the victim's character in issue--a level playing field means that the State to stand up for the victim, and to rebut this claim by introducing evidence of the defendant's prior rapes.

This proposed legislation also deletes the unnecessary language in Rule 404 that has made it difficult to prosecute repeat child molesters. As it reads now, the Rule has been erroneously interpreted by some judges to indicate that the jury can learn that an accused molester has abused other children only if the court finds that it was part of a very specific "common scheme or plan." This bill would fix that problem by simply eliminating this confusing phrase.

WALTER J. HICKEL
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

P. O. Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001
(907) 465-3500

Law 0035

SB 35/

March 9, 1994

*The Honorable Rick Halford
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182*

Dear Mr. President:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that amends Alaska Rule of Evidence 404 in several respects to help protect the victims of crimes in this state.

In far too many cases of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child sexual abuse, Alaska's victims are often themselves "put on trial" in the course of criminal proceedings. The emotional trauma that such crime victims routinely suffer in the criminal justice system can in some cases be nearly as traumatic as the crime itself.

Therefore, in order to address these problems and to better protect Alaska's citizenry, especially women and children who are frequently the victims of these crimes, we have proposed three changes to Rule of Evidence 404 which are intended to accomplish the following three goals.

The first goal is to reduce the number of times a sexual assault victim is "put on trial" by authorizing the admission into evidence of other sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults by the defendant if the defendant claims that the victim voluntarily "consented" to the sexual activity. When a defendant argues that the victim consented, the prosecution should be permitted to stand up for the victim and rebut this claim by introducing evidence to the jury that the defendant has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault other victims in the past.

The second goal is to similarly protect Alaska's sexually abused children. Rule of Evidence 404(b) was intended to prevent sexual predators and other child abusers from manipulating juries by hiding their past crimes of this type. Unfortunately, a confusing and unnecessary phrase -- "to show a common scheme or plan" -- has

The Honorable Rick Halford
March 9, 1994
Page 2

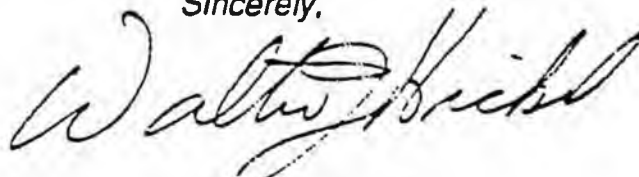
been misinterpreted by several Alaska courts to exclude evidence meant to be allowed under the rule. This bill would fix that problem by simply eliminating this confusing phrase. Evidence of other sexual assaults or sexual abuse by the defendant toward the same or another child should be admissible if those acts are similar to the offense charged, whether or not the evidence demonstrates a "common scheme or plan." This bill also specifies a 10-year time period as being not too remote for the admissibility of evidence of prior similar sexual assaults or sexual abuse offenses committed by the defendant against children.

The third goal relates to evidence of past violence on the part of the defendant. In cases of domestic violence and other violent crimes, the defendant often claims that the victim was the initial aggressor. The defendant claims, in essence, that "the victim hit me first" and that therefore the victim "had it coming." Under the existing rule of evidence, the defendant is then permitted to introduce all sorts of evidence about the victim's past reputation for violence -- and hide the fact that the defendant's own past contains an even more violent record. This bill would fix the rule by permitting the prosecution to stand up for the victim, and to rebut these claims by introducing evidence of the defendant's own past violence.

A defendant who claims that the victim was the aggressor should not be able to hide behind Rule 404 to keep a jury from learning that the defendant has an even greater reputation for violence in the community. The most common "relevant character trait of the accused" contemplated in this proposed amendment to Rule of Evidence 404(a) is the accused's reputation for violence or aggression.

The changes proposed in this bill will help level the playing field for the state in its efforts to combat crime. I urge your favorable action on this bill.

Sincerely,



Walter J. Hickel
Governor

FISCAL NOT

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1

Bill Version: SB 351

(S) Publish Date: 3-9-94

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title: "An Act Relating to Evidence in Sexual BRU Public Defender Agency
Assault Cases..." Component: Public Defender Agency
 Sponsor: _____
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY95 | FY96 | FY97 | FY98 | FY99 | FY00 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TRAVEL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUPPLIES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EQUIPMENT | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1003 GF Match | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1004 GF | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of current year (FY94) cost: none

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: John Salemi, Public Defender Phone: 264-4400
 Division: Public Defender Agency Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Nancy Bear Usura Date: 2/17/94
 Agency: Administration

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 2

Bill Version: SB 351

(S) Publish Date: 3-9-94

Revision Date: February 15, 1994
Title: "...amending Alaska Rule of Evidence 404...
admissibility of certain character evidence..."
Sponsor: Rules/Request of Governor
Requestor: Governor's Office

Department Affected: Department of Law
BRU: Prosecution
Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0085 through 0090

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

| OPERATING | FY 95 | FY 96 | FY 97 | FY 98 | FY 99 | FY 00 |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL | | | | | | |
| TRAVEL | | | | | | |
| CONTRACTUAL | | | | | | |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | | | | | |
| LAND & | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| REVENUE | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUNDING:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program | | | | | | |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | | | | | | |
| OTHER | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

POSITIONS:

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

Estimate of current year (FY94) impact: -0-

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)
Please see the attached analysis.

Prepared by: Richard I. Peques, Director
Division: Administrative Services Division

Phone: 465-3672

Date: February 15, 1994

Approved by Commissioner: Bruce M. Botelho, Attorney General

Agency: Department of Law

Date: February 15, 1994

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. _____

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION:

This bill amends Alaska Rule of Evidence 404 in several important respects. First, the bill would help reduce the number of times a rape victim is "put on trial" by authorizing the admission into evidence of other sexual assaults by the defendant against the same or another person when the defendant relies on the defense of consent. A defendant who argues that the victim consented should not be able to hide behind Rule of Evidence 404(b) to keep the jury from learning that the defendant has assaulted other victims.

Second, with respect to sexual abuses or assaults against a minor, this bill removes from Rule of Evidence 404(b) confusing language – "to show a common scheme or plan" – that has been misinterpreted by several courts to exclude evidence meant to be allowed under the rule. The bill also specifies a 10-year time period as being not too remote for the admissibility of evidence of prior similar assaults or sexual abuse offenses committed by the defendant against minors.

Finally, this bill amends Rule of Evidence 404(a) to allow evidence of a defendant's reputation for aggression or violence when the defendant places the victim's character for violence in issue by claiming self-defense. A defendant who claims that the victim was the aggressor should not be able to hide behind Rule 404 to keep a jury from learning that the defendant has an even greater reputation for violence in the community.

Because the bill modifies the rules of evidence in a manner that will help level the playing field for state prosecutors, and does not add to or otherwise increase our workload, there will not be a fiscal impact.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL

No. 3

Bill Version: 9B.251

(S) Publish Date: 3-9-94

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title: Evidence in Sexual Assault Cases BRU: Alaska State Troopers
 Component: Detachments
 Sponsor: Rules by Request
 Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 799

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

| OPERATING | FY 95 | FY 96 | FY 97 | FY 98 | FY 99 | FY 00 |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | | | |
| TRAVEL | | | | | | |
| CONTRACTUAL | | | | | | |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | | | | | |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| <small>Revenue Code</small> | | | | | | |

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | | | | | | |
| Other | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

Estimate of current year (FY 94) impact: \$ _____

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Prepared By: Lee Ann Lucas Phone: 465-4322
 Division: Office of the Commissioner Date: 2/16/94
 Approved by Commissioner: *[Signature]* Date: _____
 Agency: Richard J. Burton Dept. of Public Safety

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2/16/94

FISCAL NOTI

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 4
Bill Version: SB.351
(S) Publish Date: 2-9-94

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
Title: *An Act Relating to Evidence in Sexual BRU: Office of Public Advocacy
Assault Cases... Component: Office of Public Advocacy
Sponsor: _____
Requestor: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 43

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY95 | FY96 | FY97 | FY98 | FY99 | FY00 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TRAVEL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUPPLIES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EQUIPMENT | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1003 GF Match | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1004 GF | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of current year (FY94) cost: none

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Brant McGee, Public Advocate Phone: 274-1684
Division: Office of Public Advocacy Date: _____
Approved by Commissioner: Nancy Bear Usura Date: 2/17/94
Agency: Administration

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GOVERNOR HICKEL'S BILL TO ARREST STALKERS AND WIFE BEATERS

(SB 350 & HB 524)

As the new anti-stalking law has proved, it's simply not enough to put laws on the books that only allow police to come in and mop up after a woman has already been victimized. Protecting Alaska's women from stalkers and domestic violence means that police have to have the ability to act--to intervene--and to do so immediately.

Here's the problem: When an attacker is out on bail, the victim is often at risk. Tragically, inevitably, what often happens is this:

Despite the order by the Court that he have no contact with the victim, the defendant returns to the home of the wife or girlfriend he's accused of attacking. Often it is late at night. Often, both alcohol and anger are involved.

There's a knock or a shout or a broken window. Words are exchanged. Terrified, the abused woman desperately calls 911. The police race to respond. Sirens blare. But by the time they arrive, predictably, the defendant has fled the scene. And since the police didn't see him violate bail with their own eyes, they can only make an arrest if, in the middle of the night, they are able to reach a prosecutor and a judge to issue the appropriate warrant.

This can take hours. And in the meantime, an accused criminal, angry and often drunk, remains at large. And one frightened woman will have a terrifying night as she is told, once again, that there is little that the police can do.

That's not good enough. Alaska's police need the ability to act.

The Governor's proposal would permit police to promptly arrest accused stalkers and other offenders who return to confront their victims. The draft amendment to AS 12.25.030 would authorize the warrantless arrest of persons who have violated conditions of release in domestic violence and rape cases, to the same extent that warrantless arrests are already authorized under existing Alaska law for the initial commission of these same offenses.



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

March 9, 1994

350

*The Honorable Rick Halford
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182*

Dear Mr. President:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that would allow peace officers to make warrantless arrests when they have reasonable cause to believe that a defendant is violating the conditions of release imposed by a court in certain types of cases, including stalking, assault, sexual assault, and domestic violence cases. The bill would allow peace officers to take immediate action to protect the public, rather than requiring that they contact a prosecutor and a judge before arresting the defendant.

For example, if a person accused of stalking, domestic violence, assault, or sexual assault confronts the victim while the person is released on bail, or violates another condition of release, peace officers are rarely able to protect the victim or the public in general by making an immediate arrest. Typically, the peace officer must first meet with a prosecutor, go into court to file a motion, and obtain a court order before they can act to put the defendant back in jail. Since a large percentage of these incidents occur late at night and often involve alcohol or drug use by the defendant, these situations are particularly dangerous for victims -- and challenging for peace officers, prosecutors, and judges.

The bill authorizes the warrantless arrest of defendants who have violated conditions of release imposed by the court for certain offenses to the same extent that warrantless arrests are already authorized under existing law for the initial commission of these same offenses. The bill would permit peace officers to promptly arrest accused stalkers and other offenders who confront their victims, or otherwise violate conditions of release, while on bail.

The Honorable Rick Halford
March 9, 1994
Page 2

Protecting Alaskans from stalkers and domestic violence requires giving peace officers the tools to act -- to intervene -- and to do so immediately. I urge your favorable action on 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.

Walter J. Hickel
Governor