

HB

47

HFIN

FILE

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred to Committee: May 2, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 5/8/97

The FINANCE Committee considered:

HB 47

HOUSE BILL NO. 47

TELEPHONE VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

"An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

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

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____

fiscal note(s) HFC

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) DPS

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS		DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Therriault</i>	Therriault			✓	
<i>Eldon Yule</i>	MULLER	✓			
<i>Terry Martin</i>	Martin			✓	
<i>Vicki Kohring</i>	Kohring	X			
<i>J. Davis</i>	J. Davis	X			
<i>G. Davis</i>	G. Davis			✓	
<i>J. Kelly</i>	Kelly			✓	

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Therriault*

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 47

Title: Authorizing Department of Corrections to provide
Automated Victim Notification & Prisoner Information System

Sponsor: Rep. Kemplen

Requestor: _____

Dept. Affected Corrections

BRU: Administration & Support

Components: Data & Word Processing

Serial # 698

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	100.0	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	3.0	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	106.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund	86.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF/Program Receipts	20.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
TOTAL	106.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

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)

see attached analysis

Prepared by:

House Finance Committee

Date:

Rep. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair

Phone: 465-4939

Rep. Gene Therriault, Co-Chair

Phone: 465-4797

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HB 47

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title: Automated victim notification system BRU: CDVSA
 Component: CDVSA
 Sponsor: Representative Kempen
 Requestor: H. State Affairs COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0521

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

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
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
Revenue Code						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GE Match						
1004 GE						
1005 GE/Program Receipts						
1006 GE/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY 97) impact: \$ 0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		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.)

This bill has no fiscal impact on the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Prepared By: Jayne E. Andreen, Executive Director Phone: 907-465-4356
 Division: Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Date: 4/23/97
 Approved by Commissioner: *Ronald L. Otte* Date: 4/23/97
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 47

Title: Authorizing Department of Corrections to provide
Automated Victim Notification & Prisoner Information System

Sponsor: Rep. Kemplen

Requestor: _____

Dept. Affected Corrections

BRU: Administration & Support

Components: Data & Word Processing

Serial # 698

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	100.0	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	3.0	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	106.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund	86.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF/Program Receipts	20.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
TOTAL	106.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

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)

see attached analysis

Prepared by: House Finance Committee

Date:

Rep. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair

Phone: 465-4939

Rep. Gene Therriault, Co-Chair

Phone: 465-4797

FISCAL NOTE

Jo. 1
 Bill Version: HB 47
 (H) Publish Date: 4/28/97

**STATE OF ALASKA
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date: 4/25/97 Dept. Affected: Corrections
 Title: Authorizing Department of Corrections to provide BRU: Administration and Support
Automated Victim Notification & Prisoner Information System Component: Data and Word Processing
 Sponsor: Representative Kemplen
 Requester: H. State Affairs COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 698

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	144.1	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT	3.0					
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	150.1	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (1005)	0.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	150.1					
1005 GF/Program Receipts		93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	150.1	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This information is the Department's best estimate for system and operation costs of an automatic victim notification system for Alaska's prisons, jails, probation offices, and CRC locations. Exact expenditures would not be available until the Department received responses to an RFP for an automated victim notification system.

There would be no charge for notifying victims or changes in prisoner's status. The estimated revenues shown are anticipated through fees charged to members of the public who wish to obtain additional information such as bail costs, charges, visitation, or information on prisoners who have been released.

Prepared by: Bruce Richards
 Division: Office of the Commissioner
 Approved by: Commissioner Margaret M. Pugh
 Agency: Department of Corrections

Phone: 465-3307
 Date: 4/25/97
 Date: 4/25/97

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COMMITTEE COPY

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN KEMPLEN

Sponsor Statement for House Bill 47

"An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system."

Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans call our state institutions seeking information on inmates. Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,920 inmates, 49% of whom are considered violent in November, 1996. Clearly proper and timely notification to victims about the release or escape of their attackers can improve their sense of safety.

A state-of-the-art computer system, called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) was developed to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity. VINE provides two important services that enhance that vital link of communication between the justice system and the victim.

First: VINE provides automatic notification calls to a crime victim when an inmate's status changes. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, VINE places an automated telephone call to all registered victims within 10 minutes of the change in the offender's status. VINE continues to call the victim for 24 hours or until successful notification is verified by the victim.

Second: VINE provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. VINE allows confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of personal identification numbers. Victims may easily enter new contact numbers.

Kentucky became the first state to implement VINE statewide in February, 1996. During the first 90 days of operation, over 20,000 phone calls were processed. Over 600 victims were notified through VINE of impending inmate releases. Three months later, over 3,500 successful notifications had been made, with an average of 7 new registrations a day. Currently, the VINE Company has contracts with over 150 counties in more than 12 states, including Texas, California, New Jersey, Georgia and Michigan.

The goal of this legislation is to meet the need for timely, efficient and reliable notification to a victim about the offender's status. This legislation provides for the use of innovative technology that will assist corrections staff charged with the responsibility of notifying crime victims who may move. This legislation gives victims control. The timely notification will allow victims to prepare for offenders' releases and victims can, in confidence, keep corrections staff informed of their telephone contact numbers.

I urge your support and prompt passage.

SESSION
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182
(907) 465-2435
(907) 465-6615 FAX
1-800-550-2435

INTERIM
716 W. 4TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 258-8100

V.I.N.E. Bullet Sheet

Authorizing and funding the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system.

Senate Bills 25 and 26 sponsored by Senator Johnny Ellis
House Bills 47 and 48 sponsored by Representative Allen Kemplen

- V.I.N.E. stands for Victim Information and Notification Everyday.
- System features:
 - Automatic notification calls to crime victims when an inmate's status changes. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, V.I.N.E. places automated telephone calls to all registered victims with 10 minutes of a perceived change. V.I.N.E. continues to call the victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim.
 - Inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. V.I.N.E. allows for a confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of a personal identification number, and they may easily enter new contact numbers.
 - Notification letters will be generated for all registered victims for upcoming parole hearings. If an unplanned hearing appears within 4 working days, V.I.N.E. will automatically begin telephone notification attempts for the victim.
- Goal: Provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims when an inmate has a change of status.
 - Timely notification allows a victim to prepare for the release, sometimes taking life saving precautions.
 - The burden placed on corrections staff charged with the responsibility of notifying often-transient crime victims is significantly reduced.
- Currently, the V.I.N.E. Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.
- Endorsed by Alaska Peace Officers, Victims for Justice, STAR, AWRC, AWAIC and Tongass Counseling Services
- In November 1996, Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,990 inmates, 49% whom are considered violent.
- In Alaska, 619 people are imprisoned for sexual abuse of a minor or sexual assault.
- In Alaska, 189 people are incarcerated for domestic violence offenses.
- Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans calls our state institutions seeking information on inmates.

- Once the project is awarded, an engagement team assists in the development and introduction of the V.I.N.E. The team consists of:
 - Account Manager - primary account contact
 - Project Engineer - manage technical implementation
 - Account Coordinator - assist with promotional materials
 - PR Coordinator - assists with media coverage and press releases
- Interface hardware that is placed at the customer's site will be owned by the customer.
- This equipment will be maintained by the vendor as a part of the monthly service fee.
- The vendor provides an on-site V.I.N.E. training session.
- System price estimates:
 - Scenario I - DOC Implementation for incoming callers to get information, notification on release, transfer and parole hearings.
 - Up-front start-up fee \$19,750 (one time)
Includes hardware, software, project management, orientation, training, promotional material and marketing assistance. This price includes all 13 facilities if they all use OBSIS as a common system.
 - Monthly operation fee \$2,900 per month
Includes call center access, monitoring, script changes, incoming and outgoing call traffic. This price includes all 13 facilities if they all use OBSIS as a common system.
 - Scenario II - Additional cost for 8 halfway houses
\$300 per facility per month
 - Scenario III - Addition of DA offices
Set-up \$5,700 per DA's office (one time)
Monthly \$700.00 per DA's office
 - Scenario IV - Addition of court houses
Set-up \$5,700 per court house office (one time)
Monthly \$700.00 per court house office
 - Scenario V - Addition of State Troopers
Set-up \$5,700 per Trooper's office (one time)
Monthly \$300.00 per Trooper's office
 - Scenario VI - Addition of 15 local jails
Set-up \$20,000 for all 15 jails (one time)
Monthly \$12,000.00 for all 15 jails
- JAIL-LINK Option - Provides a 900 number for more detailed information such as charges, bail amounts, visitation, or information on inmates who have been released. The state would receive \$1.25 per call, offsetting the costs of the system.

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Effective dates. — Section 1, ch. 37, SLA 1996, which enacted this section, took effect on August 21, 1996.

Sec. 12.30.025. Release before trial in cases involving stalking. (a) In determining the conditions of release under AS 12.30.020 in cases involving stalking but not domestic violence, the court shall consider the conditions specified in AS 12.30.020 and the following conditions and impose one or more conditions it considers reasonably necessary to protect the alleged victim of the stalking, including ordering the defendant

- (1) not to subject the victim to further stalking;
- (2) not to contact the victim other than through counsel;
- (3) to engage in counseling; if the court directs the defendant to engage in personal counseling, the court shall provide in the order that the counseling must propose alternatives to aggression if that type of counseling is available;
- (4) to refrain from the consumption of alcohol or the use of drugs.

- (b) As used in this section,
 - (1) "domestic violence" has the meaning given in AS 18.66.990;
 - (2) "stalking" means a violation of AS 11.41.260 or 11.41.270. (§ 35 ch 102 SLA 1980; am § 12 ch 61 SLA 1982; am § 4 ch 64 SLA 1991; am § 6 ch 40 SLA 1993; am § 2 ch 37 SLA 1996; am § 10 ch 64 SLA 1996)

Revisor's notes. — In 1996, in subsection (a) "the conditions specified in AS 12.30.020 and" was inserted after "shall consider" to reconcile § 2, ch. 37, SLA 1996 and § 10, ch. 64, SLA 1996.

Effect of amendments. — The 1991 amendment, effective September 16, 1991, rewrote paragraph (4) and, in subsection (b) (now rewritten), inserted "a parent, grandparent, child, or grandchild of the defendant;" and "or is in or has been in a dating, courtship, or engagement relationship with the defendant," and made punctuation changes.

The 1993 amendment, effective May 28, 1993, inserted "or stalking" throughout, and, in subsection (b) (now rewritten), added the paragraph (1) designation and paragraph (2).

The first 1996 amendment, effective August 20, 1996, inserted "conditions specified in AS 12.30.020 and the" in the introductory language of subsection (a).

The second 1996 amendment, effective July 1, 1996, rewrote this section. The amendments were harmonized by the revisor. See the revisor's note.

Sec. 12.30.027. Release in domestic violence cases. (a) Before ordering release before or after trial, or pending appeal, of a person charged with or convicted of a crime involving domestic violence, the court shall consider the safety of the alleged victim or other household member. To protect the alleged victim, household member, and the public and to reasonably assure the person's appearance, the court may impose bail and any of the conditions authorized under AS 12.30.020, any of the provisions of AS 18.66.100(c)(1) — (7) and (11), and any other condition necessary to protect the alleged victim, household member, and the public, and to ensure the appearance of the person in court, including ordering the person to refrain from the consumption of alcohol.

(b) A court may not order or permit a person released under (a) of this section to return to the residence of the alleged victim or the residence of a petitioner who has a protective order directed to the person and issued or filed under AS 18.66.100 — 18.66.180.

- (c) If the court imposes conditions of release under (a) of this section, it shall
 - (1) issue a written order specifying the conditions of release;
 - (2) provide a copy of the order to the person arrested or charged; and
 - (3) immediately distribute a copy of the order to the law enforcement agency that arrested the person.

(d) When a person is released from custody under (a) of this section,

- (1) from a correctional facility, the correctional facility shall notify the prosecuting authority and the prosecuting authority shall make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release, and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release;

(2) from other than a correctional facility, the arresting authority shall make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release, and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release.

(e) A person arrested for a crime involving domestic violence may not be released from custody until the person has appeared in person before a judicial officer or telephonically for arraignment.

(f) A person may not bring a civil action for damages for a failure to comply with the provisions of this section.

(g) In this section, "crime involving domestic violence" has the meaning given in AS 18.66.990. (§ 11 ch 64 SLA 1996)

Effective dates. — Section 83, ch. 64, SLA 1996, makes this section effective July 1, 1996.

Sec. 12.30.030. Appeal from conditions of release. (a) A person who remains in custody after a review provided for in AS 12.30.020(f) may move the court having original jurisdiction over the offense to amend the order. The motion shall be determined promptly.

(b) When a court denies a motion under (a) of this section or conditions of release have been imposed by the court having original jurisdiction over the offense, an appeal may be taken to the court having appellate jurisdiction over the court denying the motion or imposing the conditions subject to the applicable court rules. The order of the lower court shall be affirmed unless it is found that the lower court abused its discretion. If it is held that the lower court did abuse its discretion, the appellate court may modify, vacate, set aside, reverse, remand the action for further proceeding, or remand the action directing entry of the appropriate order, which may include ordering the person to be released under AS 12.30.020(a). The appeal shall be determined promptly. (Sec. 3.01 ch 34 SLA 1962; am § 1 ch 20 SLA 1966; am § 12 ch 69 SLA 1970; am § 12 ch 21 SLA 1991)

Effect of amendments. — The 1991 amendment, effective June 11, 1991, in subsection (b), substituted "the applicable court rules" for "the rules of the

Supreme Court of Alaska and the District Court Rules of Criminal Procedure.

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Alaska's Bail Reform Act provides for expeditious review of bail determinations. Carman v. State, 564 P.2d 361 (Alaska 1977).

The need for rapid review of bail orders is reflected in this section. Martin v. State, 517 P.2d 1389 (Alaska 1974).

The supreme court has implemented this section by the adoption of Appellate Rule 206(b) and

Appellate Rule 207. Griffith v. State, 541 P.2d (Alaska Ct. App. 1982).

Applied in Gilbert v. State, 540 P.2d 455 (Alaska 1975); A.M. v. State, 653 P.2d 346 (Alaska 1982).

Quoted in Stiegele v. State, 685 P.2d 1255 (Alaska Ct. App. 1984).

Sec. 12.30.040. Release after conviction. (a) A person who has been convicted of an offense and is awaiting sentence, or who has filed an appeal, shall be released in accordance with the provisions of AS 12.30.020 unless the court has reason to believe that no one or more conditions of release will reasonably assure the appearance of the person as required or prevent the person from posing a danger to other persons or the community. If that determination is made, the person may be remanded to custody. This section does not affect the right of a person appealing from a judgment of conviction in a district court to the superior court to be released on bail pending appeal under AS 603(b) of the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of (a) of this section, a person may be released on bail either before sentencing or pending appeal if the person has been convicted of an offense that is

- (1) an unclassified felony or a class A felony; or

Lawmakers buy mom a gun

Woman fighting for victim rights makes an impression in Juneau

By SHEILA TOOMEY
Daily News reporter

A bigger gun is not always a better gun, so a group of legislators are buying a Mat-Su mom a new .38-caliber pistol, a solid improvement on her present piece. Ethel Barenz owns an old mini-14, a semi-automatic rifle with a 30-round clip. She sleeps with it under her bed in case a violent ex-boyfriend who has already done time for attacking her shows up again. But it's an inconvenient load for a mother of seven.

The real problem is a road gun. Right now, Barenz is using a borrowed Colt .45 that must be returned soon, leaving her with just the clunky rifle.

"When you have a 2-year-old and a 3-

year-old," she explained, "it's easier to be able to put your gun in a shoulder holster."

Rep. Fred Dyson, who says he can get a real deal from a local gunsmith, learned of Barenz's weapon problem last month when she showed up in Juneau to lobby for her favorite cause, victim rights. Barenz won this year's Daily News "Send me to Juneau" contest.

As she went from office to office during her five days in the capital, she used her own case to illustrate the advantages of a computer system that would automatically call victims when their assailant got out of jail. Current law requires notification by mail, and even

Please see Back Page, GUN



FRAN DURNER / Anchorage Daily News

Ethel Barenz, who keeps watch against an ex-boyfriend who has been in prison for attacking her, keeps a semi-automatic rifle at home. Some lawmakers have decided to buy a more portable weapon and a training course for her. Barenz has been lobbying the Legislature as an advocate for the rights of victims.

SUNDAY MAY 4, 1997



GUN: Lawmakers help to arm woman

Continued from Page A-1

that doesn't always happen, said Municipal Prosecutor J.R. Richard, who supports the bill Barenz was lobbying for. It would appropriate \$150,000 to buy the "Victims Information and Notification Everyday," or VINE program.

Barenz, 33, keeps a gun at home, and carries one whenever she travels without another adult along. The five of her children who live at home do all the normal things kids do, so when Barenz is not working one of her two jobs, she's ferrying them to sports and lessons and schools and doctors.

The ex spent 1996 in jail for assault and drunk driving. Released on Jan. 13, he now faces trial on a charge of assaulting another woman in an effort to find out where Barenz lived, according to the municipal prosecutor's office.

"It's a very scary situation," Barenz said.

Barenz was not notified when her assailant was released. She talks about him showing up, about waiting for the police to get there while she held the gun and a friend hustled the children out the back door. Legislators who heard her were clearly impressed.

"She took this place by storm," said Dyson, R-Eagle River. "She's got more guts than a Christmas goose."

In addition to attracting the offer of a newer, better gun, Barenz seems to have resuscitated the VINE bill. Long considered dead because Democrats are sponsoring it in a Republican controlled world, VINE is showing life signs.

"The bill had been in a coma for the entire session 'til she hit town," said Johnny Ellis, D-Anch., one of the co-sponsors. "I couldn't get a hearing at all.

"She came, and the bill passed out of Senate State Affairs. She really connected and bonded with a lot of those people who are in charge."

Neither Barenz nor the legislators find it odd that lawmakers should offer to get a gun for a constituent. It's perfectly legal, they point out. She really needs one. And they also are sending her to a concealed weapons training class to make sure she knows how to use it.

"I was more into giving her a concealed weapons permit," said Rep. Ethan Berkowitz, D-Anch., who gave \$20 to the \$129 donated for the permit. "That's what my contribution went for."

"It's no more strange than having the Legislature spend a million dollars to sue its own citizens," said Rep. Tom Brice, D-Fairbanks, taking a shot at the pot appropriated to fight Native sovereignty. He also donated \$20.

'She took this place by storm. She's got more guts than a Christmas goose.'

— Rep. Fred Dyson

Sen. Lyda Green's staff interrogated Barenz before approving the armaments upgrade plan. "They were all concerned that I was mentally able to handle it," Barenz said. "that I wasn't out for blood. All I'm out for is a peaceful, safe life with my children."

Green didn't donate any money, but she heads the committee that approved VINE and sent it to Senate Finance.

"She was very compelling," said Green, R-Mat Su.

Not everyone agrees that arming a domestic violence victim is a good idea. Dyson said he often runs into opposition when he suggests it. "All the professionals who deal with domestic violence, they launched and went flapping around the chandeliers (saying) 'this is terrible, it's absolutely inconsistent to advocate violence to resist violence.'"

Dyson is going to get the new gun, either donated or at wholesale — one that retails for about \$300, he said.

Ellis, who did not contribute to the gun fund, said he has mixed feelings. "That was her solution to her feeling safe," he said. "It's her right."

Barenz said the Anchorage prosecutor's office told her she should probably have a gun because she lives so far out in the boonies the police will never be able to get there in time if real trouble comes calling.

"I don't think I told her that," said Arnie Fritz, the prosecutor's victim coordinator who deals with domestic violence cases. "I usually would not advise women to arm. My perspective is the more weapons you introduce into a violent situation, the more likely someone is to get hurt ... When you're getting a weapon for self defense, you're kind of raising the stakes."

"I'm quite concerned about an angry or frightened person misusing a weapon," Dyson agreed. "But we have a very poor history in our country of restraining orders saving anyone."

Meanwhile, Barenz is back home, writing about her "neat" experience as a citizen lobbyist, carrying her .45 out in the open until she gets a concealed weapons permit, waiting for the training class to begin.

STATE OFFICE
ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 240106 Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0106 Phone (907) 277-0515 Fax (907) 272-5355

January 17, 1997

RECEIVED JAN 24 1997

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Anchorage

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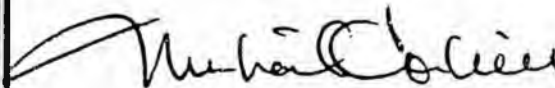
Representative Allen Kemplen
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Kemplen,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association, I would like to thank you for introducing House Bills 47 and 48 relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system and appropriations for the same. At a recent meeting of the APOA State Board, we decided to unanimously support this legislation. We believe that the better the communications are between Corrections, departments, municipalities and victims, the better the prevention of prisoner-related problems.

We encourage you to call on us when there are hearings on these bills, so that we may testify about the need for this legislation. If you need assistance as you shepherd these bills through the legislative process, please call me at 451-5316, or our business manager, Joseph Young at 277-0515.

Sincerely,



Michael Corkill
APOA State President



City and Borough of Sitka

POLICE DEPARTMENT

304 Lake Street, Room 102 • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Lynn F. Lamm
Chief of Police

206-338-1234
206-338-1235

RECEIVED FEB 26 1997

TO: Representative Jeanette JAMES, Chair
State Affairs Committee

FROM: Chief Lynn LAMM, Sitka Police Department
Director Christine MCLEOD, Sitkans Against Family Violence

DATE: 2-06-97

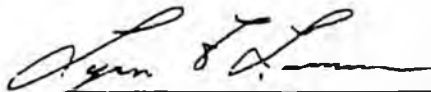
SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bills 25 and 26
Support for House Bills 47 and 49
VINE


Representative JAMES-

The Sitka Police Department and Sitkans Against Family Violence would like to jointly express our support for this legislation.

Automatic notification would be beneficial to the domestic violence victim and the police. Immediate notification would be very beneficial to the victim allowing sufficient time to prepare themselves and family members for release of an inmate. For the police it would mean timely notification to the victim and another method of notification besides the current methods outlined in the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996.

We urge passage of this legislation on behalf of victim's rights in domestic violence cases and as a continuation of legislative efforts toward prevention of domestic abuse.


Lynn LAMM, Chief of Police
Sitka Police Department


Christine MCLEOD, Director
Sitkans Against Family Violence



WOMEN IN CRISIS

Counseling and Assistance

717 Ninth Avenue • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(907) 452-2293 • Fax: 452-2613 • 1-800-478-7273

February 12, 1997

RECEIVED FEB 14 1997
RECEIVED FEB 17 1997

Representative Jeanette James, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 102
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

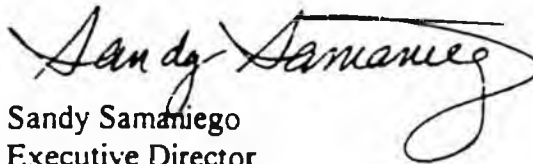
Dear Representative James:

I am writing in support of HB 47, "An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system" and HB 48, providing funding.

Passage of and funding for HB 47 will allow for greater safety for victims of violent crimes. It would save victims from physical harm and save lives. It stands to reason that the sooner this bill becomes law, the sooner can this protection be provided. Therefore, I urge you to facilitate both bills' passage this session.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Sandy Samaniego
Executive Director

cc: Representative Allen Kemplen



Bethel Police Department

P.O. Box 500 Bethel, Alaska 99559
543-3785

February 7 1997

Representative Jeanette James Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 102
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

RE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
House Bill Nos. 47

Dear Representative James,

The Bethel Police Department is very much in support of the VINE legislation.

We feel it is critical that the rights of the victims of violent crime are defended. It is paramount to the well-being of every victim that they be notified of and have access to information regarding the activities of the violent offender.

Most sincerely,

Gary K. Eilers
Chief of Police

cc: Representative Allen Kemplen
Room 112
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

**Municipality
of
Anchorage**



P.O. Box 198650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-0650
Telephone: (907) 343-4250

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Office of the Prosecutor
420 L Street, Suite 100

March 19, 1997

Representative Terry Martin
State Capitol, Room 502
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Terry Martin;

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Prosecutors Office, the Municipality of Anchorage and its people, and all the victims of domestic violence. I urge your support for the passage of House Bill 47 and the attendant appropriations bill.

Since the passage of the Domestic Violence Protection/Victim Protection act of 1996, particularly the amendments to AS 12.30.027, Prosecutor and District Attorney offices around the state have been charged with a responsibility we simply cannot meet this in any meaningful manner.

AS 12.30.027(d)(1) provides:

When a person is released from custody under (a) of this section (bail), from a correctional facility, the correctional facility shall notify the prosecuting authority and the prosecuting authority shall make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release, and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release.

As things stand now, there simply are no reasonable efforts we can make to immediately notify the victim if a defendant makes bail at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning, which is when most of these arrests are made.

An automated and statewide victim notification system is the only meaningful method of complying with AS 12.30.027. If we are to protect the victim's of domestic violence and remain at the forefront of domestic violence prosecution, this system must be implemented.

Sincerely,

John Marston Richard
Chief Municipal Prosecutor

cc: Representative Kubina

Alaska Women's Lobby

P.O. Box 210685 Anchorage 99521
211 Fourth Street Suite 108 Juneau 99801

phone: 907-586-1107
fax: 907-586-1097

RECEIVED JUNE 17 1997

POSITION STATEMENT

HB47/HB48: Automated Victim Notification/Prisoner Identification System

These bills authorize and fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) This system automatically places calls to victims to notify them that their attacker has been released, transferred to another facility or posted bail. Victims may also anonymously call to check on the status of an inmate anytime.

We heartily support the goal of this legislation to provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims when the inmate has a change of status. Timely notification allows a victim to prepare for the perpetrator's release, which can sometimes involve taking lifesaving precautions. In addition, the burden placed on corrections and victim/witness staff, charged with responsibility for notifying the crime victim, is significantly reduced.

The Alaska Women's Lobby supports these bills and applauds this effort to make life a little safer for victims of crime. We urge prompt passage.

RECEIVED MAR 13 1997

March 3, 1997

Dear Representative Jeannette James,

I strongly urge you to support HB 47 and 48. Alaskans who have been victimized should not also live in daily fear that the perpetrator will be released without their knowledge. An efficient and reliable method for victim notification that reduces the burden on corrections staff is in all our best interests.

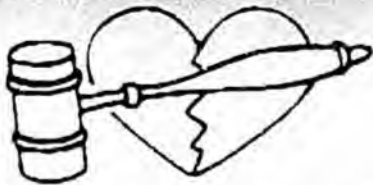
The VINE system seems an excellent way to accomplish this essential public service. Thank-you in advance for moving these bills.

Sincerely,

Patty Kartelic

4920 Anderson Rd
Fairbanks, Alaska

99709



for Justice 619 East Fifth Avenue • Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 278-0977 • Fax: (907) 258-0740

March 11, 1997

The Honorable Representative Jeanette James, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 102
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative James:

I am writing to you to urge you to support the swift passage of House Bill 47 and House Bill 48: *An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victims notification and prisoner information system.*

Alaskan families and victims of violent crime deserve to be recognized and assisted by Alaska's Department of Corrections. In fact, in 1994, the people of Alaska overwhelmingly passed at the state level, the Victims' Bill Rights. This Constitutional amendment makes *explicit* the *right* to be *informed, present* and *heard* at the same proceedings where the accused or convicted offenders have such rights. As you are aware, the Alaska Department of Corrections has statutory duties relating to crime victims, ranging from the notification of parole hearings; transfers to other facilities; an escape or release from custody to supervising restitution compliance. The Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) computer system will enhance Alaska's Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes and will significantly increase compliance with the intent of these laws.

Sincerely,

Janice Lienhart

Executive Director

cc: Representative Allen Kemplen



RECEIVED FEB 28 1997

advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

February 25, 1997

Representative Jeanette James, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 102, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative James:

I am writing in support of House Bill 47 and House Bill 48. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and urge your support and the prompt passage of these bills. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Pexa
Executive Director

cc: Representative Allen Kemplen

