SB

25

SFIN

FILE

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/29/97

FURTHER: MAY 7 1997

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 5-7-97

Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 25

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

CS Forthcoming

and recommends:

[✓] be **replaced** with _____ CS SB 25 (FIN)

[ ] adopt **previous** _____ CS _____ (_____)

[ ] attached amendment(s)

[ ] adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee

[ ] further referral to the _____ Committee

Senate Bill:
[ ] same title
[✓] new title

House Bill:
[ ] same title
[ ] technical change
[ ] new: SCR#_____

SIGNING DO PASS	*DP*	*OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS*	*NR*	*DNP*	*AM*
[illegible]	✓				
[illegible]	✓				
[illegible]	✓				
[illegible]	✓				
[illegible]	✓				
Co-Chair: [illegible]	✓	*Co-Chair:*			
Co-Chair:		*Co-Chair:* [illegible]	✓		

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
1 DOC	4/24		150.1
2 DPS	4/15	✓	
3 DOA	4/21	✓	

[ ] **APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note**

***include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill**

FISCAL NOTE

MAY 7 1997

No. 7

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SB 25
(S) Publish Date: 4-25-97

Revision Date: 4/24/97
Title: Authorizing Department of Corrections to provide Automated Victim Notification & Prisoner Information System
Sponsor: Senator Ellis
Requester: Senate State Affairs

Dept. Affected: Corrections
BRU: Administration and Support
Component: Data and Word Processing
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						
CHANGE IN REVENUES (1005)	0.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

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 of 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 Margaret M. Pugh
Phone: 465-3307
Date: 4/24/97

Approved by Commissioner:
Date: 4/24/97
Agency: Department of Corrections

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FISCAL NOTE

RECEIVED OCT. 0.
SFC MAY 7 1997

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 3
Bill Version: SB 25
(S) Publish Date: 4-25-97

Revision Date:
Title: "An Act authorizing DOC to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system"

Sponsor: Senator Ellis
Requestor: (S) STA

Department Affected: Administration

BRU: Public Defender Agency
Component: Public Defender Agency

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	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	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						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: $ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

The bill provides for an automated victim notification system. There is no fiscal impact on the Public Defender Agency.

Prepared by: Barbara K. Brink, Director
Division: Public Defender Agency
Phone: (907) 264-4414
Date:

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Boyer
Agency: Department of Administration
Alison M. Elgee
Date: 4/21/97

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Rev: 11/96

REPORTED OUT OF SFC MAY 7 1997

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. 2
Bill Version: SB 25
(S) Publish Date: 4-25-97

Revision Date:
Title: Automated victim notification system
Sponsor: Senator Ellis
Requestor: S.STA

Dept. Affected: Public Safety
BRU: CDVSA
Component: CDVSA
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 ( ) Revenue Code	0	0	0	0	0	0

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 97) impact: $ 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

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: 4/15/97

Approved by Commissioner: Ron Otte
Date: 4/15/97
Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

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Rev 11/94

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

MEMORANDUM April 28, 1997

SENATE FINANCE
COMMITTEE
Amendment Number: 1
Bill Number: SB25
Sponsor: Donley Date: 5/7/97
By: [illegible]
moved Sen. Donley
w/o objection adopted

SUBJECT: CSSB 25(JUD)

TO: Senator Robin Taylor, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
Attn: Laura

FROM: Pamela Finley
Revisor of Statutes

Enclosed is CSSB 25(JUD), which passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee today. Because the committee changed "may" to "shall" in several places, several other conforming changes ought to be made to the bill:

Page 2, line 4.

Delete "authorized"
Insert "required"

Page 2, lines 8 - 9 :

Delete "if such a system has been established by the commissioner"
Insert "established"

Requests for changes on the bill should still be addressed to Jerry Luckhaupt; I am writing this only because Jerry is so busy today.

PF:glc
97-280.glc

COPY

Municipality of Anchorage

P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4431
Fax: (907) 343-4499

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 25, 1997

Senator Bert Sharp
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 25

Dear Senator Sharp:

I urge your support of Senate Bill 25 providing for a statewide automated victim notification system. The victims of violent crime and sex offenses deserve a criminal justice system responsive to their needs and concerns; passage of the VINE legislation will provide this.

When the legislature passed the Domestic Violence Act of 1996, it imposed a burden on prosecutors to "make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release [of the defendant] and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release." This task can only be reasonably accomplished through implementation of an automated victim notification system.

The VINE system has proven effective in 12 states. The State of Alaska should be on the cutting edge of increasing responsiveness to victim concerns. We should not lag behind in this area.

As co-chair of the Senate Finance Committee, your support would be instrumental in achieving the passage of this bill. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rick Mystrom
Mayor of Anchorage

Municipality of Anchorage

P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4250

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

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

March 19, 1997

Senator Bert Sharp
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Bert Sharp;

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 Senate Bill 25 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.

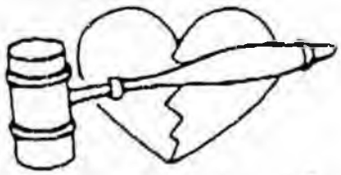
An automated and statewide victim notification system is the only meaningful method of complying with AS 12.30.027. If we are to protect the victim's of domestic violence and remain at the forefront of domestic violence prosecution, this system must be implemented.

Sincerely,

John Marston Richard
Chief Municipal Prosecutor

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

VICTIMS



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

Courtesy of the
Office of Senator Johnny Ellis

March 11, 1997

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing to you to urge you to support the swift passage of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26: *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 overwhelmly passed at the state level, the Victims' Bill of 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

Janice Lienhart
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

STATE OFFICE
ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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

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Leroy Mestas, Member
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Pres. First City Chapter

James See, Member
Craig
Pres. Prince of Wales Chapter

January 17, 1997

Senator Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Ellis,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association, I would like to thank you for introducing Senate Bills 25 and 26 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

Bethel Police Department

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

February 7, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

RE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
Senate Bill Nos: 25

Dear Senator Green,

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 obtain information regarding the activities of the violent offender.

Most sincerely,

Gary K. Eilers
Chief of Police

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis
Room 9
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

City and Borough of Sitka

POLICE DEPARTMENT

304 Lake Street, Room 102 • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Lynn F. Lamm
Chief of Police

Business 747-3245
Fax 747-1075

TO: Senator Lyda GREEN, 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 48
VINE

NH

Senator GREEN-

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 F. Lamm
Lynn LAMM, Chief of Police
Sitka Police Department

Christine A McLeod
Christine MCLEOD, Director
Sitkans Against Family Violence

Senator Ellis-
This is a courtesy copy for your information
Sgt. Allen
SPD

March 5, 1997

Dear Senator Green,

I strongly urge you to support SB 25 and 26. 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 of 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 Karkli

4920 Anderson Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of SB 25, "An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system" and SB 26, providing funding.

Passage of and funding for SB 25 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

Sandy Samaniego
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik
PO Box 878464
Wasilla, AK 99687-8464

February 4, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
Chair, State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I recently read SB 25 and SB 26 regarding an automated system that notifies victims when their perpetrators have been released, transferred to another facility or have posted bail. Through the system, victims can also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime through an anonymous process that protects their safety. I fully endorse this legislation and encourage you to consider affirmative action on this bill.

The VINE system is highly cost-effective since it is entirely computerized. Aside from the initial set-up and data entry, the system is extremely low-maintenance. Creating this system of victim notification will increase greatly the safety of those victimized by violent offenders and reduce significantly the opportunity for re-offense to victimized families.

We have suffered some major tragedies in the past year. While the VINE system will not ameliorate all violent deaths, it has the potential to prevent many and make the Mat-Su Borough a safer place for all of us to live.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Sandvik

CC: Senator Johnny Ellis

Tongass
COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

February 5, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1188

Dear Senator Green:

On behalf of the staff at Tongass Community Counseling Center I am requesting that you support Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26 to fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections. Tongass Community Counseling Center works with the perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our primary focus in this line of work is victim safety and perpetrator accountability. We endorse VINE because it empowers the victim. It gives victims access to information when they choose rather than relying on someone in the criminal justice to remember to notify them. I encourage you to pass this bill to provide a better service to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Thank you for your consideration in this issue.

Sincerely,

B. Crawford

Bridget Crawford
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

[illegible] Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 586-3585

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

Senator Lynda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. 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

Debra Pexa
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

advocates for victims of violence

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

27th February 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99081 - 1182

Dear Senator Green,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These Bills address the need of victims of violent crime to have t he right to have prompt accurate information about the status of the perpetrator. Information such as release, transfer, posting bail and escape affects victims deeply and may in the case of domestic or sexual violence mean the difference between life and death. These Bills would allow the Department of Corrections to provide automated victim notification and prisoner information system in Alaska (VINE). We need as a society, to ensure perpetrators are held accountable and victims are given the information needed to rebuild their lives safely.

Please consider co-sponsoring Bill 25 and Bill 26. We need your support to see these bills are given prompt passage. Thank you

Catherine Vaara

Catherine Vaara,
Direct Services Coordinator

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980 • FAX (907) 835-2981

March 1, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. 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. I urge you to consider co-sponsoring the bills, ensuring your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tammy McCurry

Tamara McCurry
Evening Advocate

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee
•
Senate Judiciary Committee
•
Department of Health and Social Services Budget Subcommittee
•
Department of Law Budget Subcommittee

While in Session:
State Capitol, Rm. 9
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-3704
fax: (907) 465-2529
•
While in Anchorage:
716 West 4th Ave., Ste. 440
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 258-8182
fax: (907) 258-5571

SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS

Sponsor Statement
for
Senate Bill 25

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

Proper and timely notification to victims about the release or escape of their attackers is a serious problem, both nationally and in Alaska. In November 1996, Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,990 inmates, 49% of whom are considered violent. Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans call our state institutions seeking information on inmates.

In order to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed. V.I.N.E. provides two important services which enhance the vital link of communication between the justice system and victims of crime.

First, the system provides 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 within 10 minutes of a change in the offender's status. V.I.N.E. continues to call the victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim.

Second, V.I.N.E. provides critical 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.

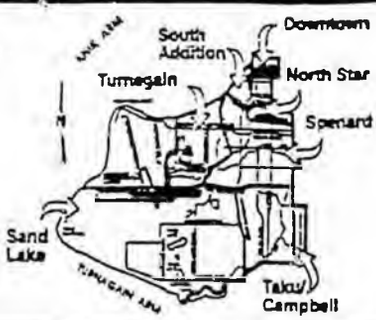
In February 1996, the State of Kentucky became the first state to implement V.I.N.E. statewide. During the first 90 days of operation, over 20,000 phone calls were processed. Over 600 victims were notified by phone of impending inmate releases. Three months later, over 3,500 successful notifications had been made, with an average of 7 new registrations per day. 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.

Implementing V.I.N.E. will increase state compliance with the Victims' Bill of Rights, overwhelmly passed by the people of Alaska in 1994. The V.I.N.E. computer system will enhance the Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes.

I urge your support and prompt passage.

WESTSIDE PULSE

MARCH, 1997 VOLUME 10, No.



COMMUNITY & SHOPPING NEW

Crime Victims Receive Warning Through V.I.N.E.

by Sen. Johnny Ellis (D)
Senate District H
Representing Spenard, Downtown and South Addition

In December 1993, Kentucky resident Mary Byron was murdered by her rapist just days after his release on bail. Neither Mary nor her family were aware that Mary's attacker had been released. Waiting for her outside the shopping mall, Donovan Harris shot and killed Mary. It was her 21st birthday.

In response to Mary's death, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity. As advocates for victims of violent crime, Representative Allen Kemplen and I have introduced companion bills in the House and Senate to authorize and fund V.I.N.E. in Alaska.

V.I.N.E.'s computer system automatically places calls to victims to notify them that their attacker has been released, transferred to another facility or posted bail. V.I.N.E. will continue to call until the victims enter a code verifying that they received the message. Victims may also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime and anonymously.

Early in the preparation of the legislation, the Alaska Peace Officers Association and victims rights groups announced their support of V.I.N.E. technology. In Anchorage, Victims for Justice, Standing Together Against Rape (STAR), the Alaska Women's Resource Center (AWRC) and AWAIC endorsed the legislation.

If you would like to show your support for V.I.N.E., write or call your legislators and tell them to support Senate Bills 25 and 26 and House Bills 47 and 48. For victims of violent crime, the successful passage of this legislation may mean the difference between life and death.

If you would like to discuss this or other issues, you may reach me in Juneau by calling (907)465-3704. I am also available via e-mail at Senator_Johnny_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us or you may write to me at State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801. You may also send a free public opinion message (POM) by calling (907)253-3111.

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ELIGIBLE WOMEN:

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Community Council News

Sand Lake

A representative from Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council gave their top ten list of why a prison has no place in South Anchorage to the Sand Lake Community Council at the February meeting.

Eileen Jones from the Alaska Center for the Environment was asked to give a brief report on new clean air standards. Also Sara Barton from HDR Engineering was invited to make a brief presentation on the planned extension of city water service to the Sand Lake gravel pit area.

A legislative teleconference connected members with elected officials in Juneau and assembly and school board members spoke and answered questions.

Turnagain

A legislative teleconference, assembly update and West Side Community Patrol elections and financial reports were among items on the February Turnagain Community Council agenda.

Brian Looney with CRW Engineering was asked to give an update to the council on the 36th Avenue storm drain project.

A questionnaire has been formulated by the board so the public and the board can provide input to guide the council for the next year.

Representatives from People Mover (Anchorage bus system) addressed the council on plans to extend service to the Anchorage International Airport. This discussion will continue this month.

South Addition

A presentation by Dave Gardnor of Anchorage Parks and Recreation on Valley of the Moon Park was among agenda items for the January South Addition Community Council.

Legislative reports and a report by Branch and Associates on the development of a lot at 9th and L streets were other items.

The 15th Avenue Project was also on the agenda for report and discussion.

North Star

Elections for North Star Community Council officers were scheduled for the late February North Star Community Council meeting. The officers are president, vice-president, treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary.

Also on that agenda was a Village Charter School presentation, discussion of school bonds, teleconference with legislators and a report of the summer solstice committee.

In a Valley of the Moon Park update at the late January council meeting, it was said that the rocket play equipment project is underway. Drawings were shown, a bid is to be awarded in late March and installation could begin in May.

Dave Gardner of Parks and Recreation explained the plans for Valley of the Moon Park, which have expanded from just adding a ballfield or two to an extensive master plan with pathways, picnic areas, soccer field, baseball field and potential skateboard park with off-street parking. Members commented on the design and desire for a basketball court was expressed.

The council unanimously approved the conceptual design and will hold a contest among area kids to name the rocket with a cash prize.

Assembly and school board reports were given. The current work is on the school district 97-98 budget which is proposed to be

last year due to opening c
middle schools, Instruc
provement, high school b
changing, and charter
view and approvals.

A Community Dev
Block Grant writing co
being formed.

On air quality, Cheryl F
described new particle m
lations for diesel soot, we
etc. She stated that the pa
scar lungs when breath
that past research show
weather inversions ca
bronchitis and asthma in

Jo Fenery described th
Me Program at North St
couraged involvement
council members are ali
ticipating from 11:45 a
p.m. each day of the sch

Baxter Gamble encour
ticipation in a fund-raiser
prevention and the Crim
program.

The Summer Solstice C
is being formed to deal
cerns about the June 2
party in Spenard. Volu
needed and can call Gam
3809.

Persons interested in th
Creek Watershed Plan c
notebook on it by contac
don Glaser, council pres

Harriet Drummond led
ing session so North S
make its contribution to
municipal comprehens
Members volunteered a
questions of what they w
about Anchorage, what th
change and completed th
"Wouldn't it be wonderfu
day Anchorage...?"

South Additio

Discussions on Valle
Moon Park in February'
nity council meeting inclu
done by the Parks Depart
tle League and the North
munity Council.

The Transportation Imp
Plan was discussed as wa
Avenue project.

Downtown

A Special Thanks

To Larry Baker, Ann Alexander and the staff at the Burger King on Dimond and Old Seward.

We really enjoyed "Taku Night at Burger King." Your generous donation to our PTA fund is greatly appreciated.

From the faculty, staff, children and parents of Taku Elementary School

General VINE™ Information

Interactive Systems was formed in 1992 to develop automated systems utilizing computer technology and telephone equipment.

In January of 1994 Interactive Systems cooperated with Jefferson County officials to study automated technology and victim notification.

In January of 1995 due to the success of the VINE™ program, Interactive Systems reformatted to focus exclusively on the VINE™ system and automated notification. A dba (doing business as), The VINE™ Company, was selected as the new name.

VINE™ program cost includes a low start-up fee and a monthly service component. Several funding options, including state and federal grants, are available.

Cost is based on inmate population, notification needs and optional parameters. Each program is unique and developed specifically for each community.

All inmate information accessed through VINE™ is public information. VINE™ differs from other notification programs by providing an automated, rather than manual, method of victim notification.

Currently, the VINE™ Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

The VINE™ system received national recognition as the only automated program for victim information and notification.

VINE™ System Facts

VINE™ is a fully automated service that alerts victims upon the release of an inmate and provides vital custody status information via the telephone.

How VINE™ works

A centralized computer system located in Louisville, Kentucky constantly monitors inmate activity at each jail or prison site.

When an inmate has a change in status, VINE™ reacts immediately to contact all registered victims. Telephone calls continue for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified.

How Victims Register

Victims register with VINE™ by calling a local access telephone number and following the prompts given by the computer. Some communities may opt to have victims automatically registered by the arresting agency involved with the case.

A personal identification number (PIN) for each victim is requested by VINE™.

The PIN number, entered by a victim after a notification, confirms a successful contact.

Benefits of Implementing VINE™ for a Victim

Registered persons are automatically called by VINE™ within ten minutes of an inmate transfer or release.

Vital inmate information is continuously available through the VINE™ information hotline.

VINE™ allows for confidential information exchange. Victims do not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Victims can register alternate telephone numbers with VINE™ and can easily enter a new telephone number if there is a change of address.

For Prosecutors and Jail Administrators

VINE™ has letter generating capabilities and is available in multiple languages.

The centralized call center is monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Notification is efficient and reliable.

All telephone calls and letters are documented.

A complete audit trail of VINE™ activity is readily available.

A VINE™ program can be customized to meet the needs of each community.

VINE™ System Features

VINE™ is a ground breaking system for Victim Assistance and Notification Programs around the country. It's current design includes features such as:

- **Full integration** with the existing Jail or Prison Information System. This means no additional workload for data input personnel.

- **Automated Dial in Query of Inmate Status.** The system will support an incoming line which allows a victim to query the status of an inmate.

- **Automated Registration of Victims** via any telephone using a combination of advanced Voice Recognition technology. This method is far superior to those requiring alphanumeric data to be typed into the telephone handset.

- **Letter Generation** for notifying victims of upcoming parole board hearings and other emergency situations.

- **Advanced Voice Recognition Technology.** This feature increases the usability of the system by allowing access to *30% of the population* which *do not have a touch tone telephone.* All users will find this registration approach much simpler and quicker.

- **Automated Notification** to two different phone numbers per victim. This function will provide an automated voice message once contact is made.

- **Message Confirmation** ensures that the message was delivered to the proper person.

- **Complete Audit Reports** which display daily activity on a per day or per case basis. These audit reports will be quickly recalled to a printer or CRT to review the systems performance.

- **Foreign Language Capabilities available upon request.**

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Health, Education and
Social Services Committee
•
Senate Judiciary Committee
•
Department of Health and Social
Services Budget Subcommittee
•
Department of Law
Budget Subcommittee

While in Session:
State Capitol, Rm. 9
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-3704
fax: (907) 465-2529
•
While in Anchorage:
716 West 4th Ave., Ste 440
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 258-8182
fax: (907) 258-5571

SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS

Sponsor Statement
for
Senate Bill 25

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

Proper and timely notification to victims about the release or escape of their attackers is a serious problem, both nationally and in Alaska. In November 1996, Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,990 inmates, 49% of whom are considered violent. Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans call our state institutions seeking information on inmates.

In order to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed. V.I.N.E. provides two important services which enhance the vital link of communication between the justice system and victims of crime.

First, the system provides 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 within 10 minutes of a change in the offender's status. V.I.N.E. continues to call the victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim.

Second, V.I.N.E. provides critical 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.

In February 1996, the State of Kentucky became the first state to implement V.I.N.E. statewide. During the first 90 days of operation, over 20,000 phone calls were processed. Over 600 victims were notified by phone of impending inmate releases. Three months later, over 3,500 successful notifications had been made, with an average of 7 new registrations per day. 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.

Implementing V.I.N.E. will increase state compliance with the Victims' Bill of Rights, overwhelmingly passed by the people of Alaska in 1994. The V.I.N.E. computer system will enhance the Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes.

I urge your support and prompt passage.

VINE™ System Facts

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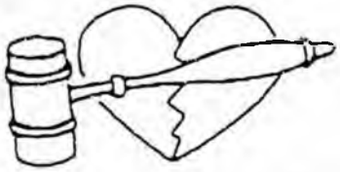
The VINE™ system received national recognition as the only automated program for victim information and notification.

VICTIMS



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

March 11, 1997

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing to you to urge you to support the swift passage of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26: *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 overwhelmly passed at the state level, the Victims' Bill of 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

Janice Lienhart
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

STATE OFFICE
ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 240106 Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0106 Phone (907) 277-0515 Fax (907) 272-535

Business Manager
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Anchorage

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Steve Heyward, Member
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Scott Chalin, Member
Wrangell
Pres. Wrangell Chapter
Leroy Mestas, Member
Ketchikan
Pres. First City Chapter
James See, Member
Craig
Pres. Prince of Wales Chapter

January 17, 1997

Senator Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Ellis,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association, I would like to thank you for introducing Senate Bills 25 and 26 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

Municipality of Anchorage

P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4250

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

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

March 19, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Lyda Green;

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 Senate Bill 25 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: Senator Johnny Ellis

Bethel Police Department

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

February 7, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

RE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
Senate Bill Nos: 25

Dear Senator Green,

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 obtain information regarding the activities of the violent offender.

Most sincerely,

Gary K. Eilers
Chief of Police

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis
Room 9
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

City and Borough of Sitka

POLICE DEPARTMENT

304 Lake Street, Room 102 • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Lynn F. Lamm
Chief of Police

Business 747-3245
Fax 747-1075

TO: Senator Lyda GREEN, Chair
State Affairs Committee

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

DATE: 2-06-97

NH

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bills 25 and 26
Support for House Bills 47 and 48
VINE

Senator GREEN-

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 F. Lamm
Lynn LAMM, Chief of Police
Sitka Police Department

Christine A McLeod
Christine MCLEOD, Director
Sitkans Against Family Violence

Senator Ellis-
This is a courtesy copy for your information
Sgt. Allen
SPD

March 5, 1997

Dear Senator Green,

I strongly urge you to support SB 25 and 26. 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 of 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 Kathlin

4920 Anderson Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of SB 25, "An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system" and SB 26, providing funding.

Passage of and funding for SB 25 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

Sandy Samaniego
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik
PO Box 878464
Wasilla, AK 99687-8464

February 4, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
Chair, State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I recently read SB 25 and SB 26 regarding an automated system that notifies victims when their perpetrators have been released, transferred to another facility or have posted bail. Through the system, victims can also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime through an anonymous process that protects their safety. I fully endorse this legislation and encourage you to consider affirmative action on this bill.

The VINE system is highly cost-effective since it is entirely computerized. Aside from the initial set-up and data entry, the system is extremely low-maintenance. Creating this system of victim notification will increase greatly the safety of those victimized by violent offenders and reduce significantly the opportunity for re-offense to victimized families.

We have suffered some major tragedies in the past year. While the VINE system will not ameliorate all violent deaths, it has the potential to prevent many and make the Mat-Su Borough a safer place for all of us to live.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Sandvik

CC: Senator Johnny Ellis

Tongass
COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

February 5, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1188

Dear Senator Green:

On behalf of the staff at Tongass Community Counseling Center I am requesting that you support Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26 to fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections. Tongass Community Counseling Center works with the perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our primary focus in this line of work is victim safety and perpetrator accountability. We endorse VINE because it empowers the victim. It gives victims access to information when they choose rather than relying on someone in the criminal justice to remember to notify them. I encourage you to pass this bill to provide a better service to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Thank you for your consideration in this issue.

Sincerely,

B. Crawford

Bridget Crawford
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

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

Senator Lynda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. 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

Debra Pexa
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980 • FAX (907) 835-2981

March 1, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. 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. I urge you to consider co-sponsoring the bills, ensuring your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tammy McCurry

Tamara McCurry
Evening Advocate

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

advocates for victims of violence

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

27th February 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99081 - 1182

Dear Senator Green,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These Bills address the need of victims of violent crime to have t he right to have prompt accurate information about the status of the perpetrator. Information such as release, transfer, posting bail and escape affects victims deeply and may in the case of domestic or sexual violence mean the difference between life and death. These Bills would allow the Department of Corrections to provide automated victim notification and prisoner information system in Alaska (VINE). We need as a society, to ensure perpetrators are held accountable and victims are given the information needed to rebuild their lives safely.

Please consider co-sponsoring Bill 25 and Bill 26. We need your support to see these bills are given prompt passage. Thank you

Catherine Vaara

Catherine Vaara,
Direct Services Coordinator

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

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

POSITION STATEMENT

SB25/SB26: 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.

KODIAK WOMEN'S RESOURCE AND CRISIS CENTER

P.O. BOX 2122, KODIAK, ALASKA 99615
Business Phone: (907) 486-6171 **Crisis Line Phone: 486-3625** Fax: 486-4264

TO: Senator Johnny Ellis

FROM: Letitia Raub, Executive Director LR
Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center
Po Box 2122, Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-6171

RE: SB25 VINE

DATE: 4/17/97

The Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center is a private non-profit corporation serving the Kodiak Island Borough. Our primary mission is to provide services to the victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. As advocates for victims of these violent crimes, we support the implementation of an automated victim notification system within the Department of Corrections. This system will provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims regarding inmate change of status. Timely notification will allow victims to prepare for inmate release and initiate safety planning. The system allows for a confidential exchange of information, thus victims will not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center urges the passage of this important legislation.

MEMBER: Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

TESTIMONY SUBMITTED FOR SB25/VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Brenda Wieffering, Executive Director
Women's Resource & Crisis Center
325 S. Spruce St.
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 283-9479 Fax: 283-5844

We fully support implementing a telephone victim notification system (VINE) through the Department of Corrections. Such a system will strengthen the state's compliance with the recently passed victims rights constitutional amendment.

A VINE system will offer *timely* crucial information for victims to use in safety planning when their perpetrators are about to be released from custody and carry out threats to harm them again.

Please enhance victim safety by supporting SB25. Lives may literally depend on it.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenda G. Wieffering

Senate Bill 25

Good afternoon

My name is Carmen Lowry and i am the Executive Director of the Tundra Women's Coalition. TWC provides services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of SB25. I am urging the Senate to authorize and fund an automated victims notification system called Victims Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections.

This system is sorely needed to provide proper and timely notification to victims about the release or transfer of their perpetrators. VINE provides automatic notification calls to victims when an inmate's status changes. VINE will continue to call victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim. That means if that guy who promised to kill you when he gets out is getting out, you will be notified and make all the necessary arrangements to keep yourself safe.

The bottom line for this legislation is two fold:

- It saves lives: timely notification allows a victims to prepare for an offender's release
- It saves valuable resources: the burden placed on corrections staff charged with the responsibility of notifying crime victims is significantly reduced.

I urge you to do the right thing, defend the rights of Alaska's victims of violent crimes, and support the passage of SB25. Thank you.

BEVERLY BOWERS
P.O. Box 907
Nome, Alaska
Phone and Fax: 907-443-2865

FAX

DATE: April 23, 1997
TO: Senator Johny Elllis
FROM: Beverly Bowers
SUBJECT: SB 25 - VINE

I support the passage of SB25 - VINE. For the protection of victims of sexual assault and domestic violence it is important that the whereabouts of the perpetrator is known.

Beverly Bowers

Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)
6 Main Street • PO Box 828 Dillingham AK 99576 • Phone: 842-5319 Fax: 842-5105

From: Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

First name: Lorraine	M.I.: L.	Last name: Swinney	Jr., Sr., III:
Residence (street) address:			Zip code:
Mailing address: P.O. Box 104 Unalaska, AK 99685			Zip code:
Daytime telephone number: (907) 581-1500	Group affiliation (if applicable): Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence		

To: Write an *H* or an *S* in a Committee box; put a √ in a Caucus or Member's box.

Committees (enter *H* or *S*)

- [ ] Community & Regional Affairs (cra)
- [ ] Finance (fin)
- [ ] Health, Ed., & Social Services (hss)
- [ ] Judiciary (jud)
- [ ] Labor & Commerce (lab)
- [ ] Resources (res)
- [ ] Rules (rls)
- [ ] State Affairs (sta)
- [ ] Transportation (trn)
- [ ] Other:
- [ ] Other:

Caucuses

- [ ] Anchorage (aga)
- [ ] Bush (bus)
- [ ] Fairbanks (Interior) (fri)
- [ ] Mat-Su (mat)
- [ ] Majority (maj)
- [ ] Minority (min)

House members

- [ ] Austerman (aus)
- [ ] Barnes (bar)
- [ ] Brice (bri)
- [ ] Brown (bro)
- [ ] Bunde (bun)
- [ ] Davies (dav)
- [ ] Davis, B. (dab)
- [ ] Davis, G. (dag)
- [ ] Elton (elt)
- [ ] Finkelstein (fik)
- [ ] Foster (foe)
- [ ] Green (grn)
- [ ] Gruenendorf (gru)
- [ ] Hanley (han)
- [ ] Ivan (iva)
- [ ] James (jam)
- [ ] Kelly, P. (kll)
- [ ] Kohring (kor)
- [ ] Kott (kot)
- [ ] Kubina (kub)
- [ ] Long (lng)
- [ ] Mackie (mak)
- [ ] Martin (mar)
- [ ] Masek (mas)
- [ ] Moses (mos)
- [ ] Mulder (mul)
- [ ] Navarre (nav)
- [ ] Nicholia (nic)
- [ ] Ogan (oga)
- [ ] Parnell (par)
- [ ] Phillips, G. (phg)
- [ ] Porter (por)
- [ ] Robinson (rob)
- [ ] Rokeberg (rok)
- [ ] Sanders (san)
- [ ] Therriault (thr)
- [ ] Toohey (toh)
- [ ] Vezey (vez)
- [ ] Williams (wil)
- [ ] Willis (wis)

Senate members

- [ ] Adams (ada)
- [ ] Donley (don)
- [ ] Duncan (dun)
- [X] Ellis (ell)
- [ ] Frank (fra)
- [ ] Green (gre)
- [ ] Halford (hal)
- [ ] Hoffman (hof)
- [ ] Kelly, T. (kel)
- [ ] Leman (lem)
- [ ] Lincoln (lin)
- [ ] Miller (mil)
- [ ] Pearce (pea)
- [ ] Phillips, R. (phl)
- [ ] Rieger (rie)
- [ ] Sato (sat)
- [ ] Sharp (sha)
- [ ] Taylor (tay)
- [ ] Torgerson (tor)
- [ ] Zharoff (zha)

Subject: Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB	Bill number				
SB	25	and check one:	[X] Support [ ] Oppose [ ] Amend	OR	Subject: VINE

Message:
- This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.
- Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 60 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

I	support	the	VINE	bill
100%.	ne	vine.	bill	is
an	excellent	idea..	This	is
very	important	for	the.	victims
safety.	Thank	you..		

TOTAL P.01

Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)
6 Main Street • PO Box 820 Dillingham AK 99576 • Phone: 842-5319 Fax: 842-5105

From: Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

Mr.	First name: Desiree	M.I.: U	Last name: Ortega
Residence (street) address			Zip code
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1073	Unalaska, AK		Zip code: 99685
Daytime telephone number: 907581-1500	Group affiliation (if applicable): Unlaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence		

To: Write an *H* or an *S* in a Committee box; put a √ in a Caucus or Members box.

Committees (enter H or S)

- [ ] Community & Regional Affairs (cra)
- [ ] Finance (fin)
- [ ] Health, Ed., & Social Services (hss)
- [ ] Judiciary (jud)
- [ ] Labor & Commerce (l&c)
- [ ] Resources (res)
- [ ] Rules (rls)
- [ ] State Affairs (sta)
- [ ] Transportation (trn)
- [ ] Other:
- [ ] Other:

Caucuses

- [ ] Anchorage (anc)
- [ ] Bush (bus)
- [ ] Fairbanks (Interior) (int)
- [ ] Mat-su (mat)
- [ ] Majority (maj)
- [ ] Minority (min)

House members

- [ ] Austerman (aus)
- [ ] Barnes (bar)
- [ ] Brice (bri)
- [ ] Brown (bro)
- [ ] Bunde (bun)
- [ ] Davies (dav)
- [ ] Davis, B. (dab)
- [ ] Davis, G. (dag)
- [ ] Elton (elt)
- [ ] Finkelstein (fik)
- [ ] Foster (fos)
- [ ] Green (grn)
- [ ] Gruenstedorf (grs)
- [ ] Hanley (han)
- [ ] Ivan (iva)
- [ ] James (jam)
- [ ] Kelly, P. (kll)
- [ ] Kohring (kor)
- [ ] Kott (kot)
- [ ] Kubina (kub)
- [ ] Long (lng)
- [ ] Mackie (mak)
- [ ] Martin (mar)
- [ ] Masek (mas)
- [ ] Moses (mos)
- [ ] Mulder (mul)
- [ ] Navarre (nav)
- [ ] Nicholia (nic)
- [ ] Ogan (oga)
- [ ] Parnell (par)
- [ ] Phillips, G. (phg)
- [ ] Porter (por)
- [ ] Robinson (rob)
- [ ] Rokeberg (rok)
- [ ] Sanders (san)
- [ ] Therriault (thr)
- [ ] Toohey (toh)
- [ ] Vezey (vez)
- [ ] Williams (wil)
- [ ] Willis (wis)

Senate members

- [ ] Adams (ada)
- [ ] Donley (don)
- [ ] Duncan (dun)
- [X] Ellis (ell)
- [ ] Frank (fra)
- [ ] Green (gre)
- [ ] Halford (hal)
- [ ] Hoffman (hof)
- [ ] Kelly, T. (kel)
- [ ] Leman (lem)
- [ ] Lincoln (lin)
- [ ] Miller (mil)
- [ ] Pearce (pea)
- [ ] Phillips, R. (phi)
- [ ] Rieger (rie)
- [ ] Salo (sal)
- [ ] Sharp (sha)
- [ ] Taylor (tay)
- [ ] Torgerson (tor)
- [ ] Zharoff (zha)

Subject: Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:		OR	Subject:
SB	25		[X] Support [ ] Oppose [ ] Amend		VINE

Message: * This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.
* Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 50 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

I	SUPPORT	the	VINE	Bill
100	percent.	I	encourage	DOC
to	implement	VINE.	This	would
support	efforts	in	keeping	the
victims	safe.	the	VINE	bill
is	an	excellent	idea	and
long	overdue!!	thank	you.	

TOTAL P.01

Public Opinion Message

Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO)
• 716 W 4th Avenue, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 • Phone: 258-8111 Fax 258-1261

This form MUST be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

From: *Please PRINT the information below.*

Mr., Ms., Mrs.	First name	MI	Last name	Jr., Sr., etc.
Ms	Angie		Rosales	

Mailing address	Zip code
111 W. 9th Ave. Anchorage	99503
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address	Zip code

Daytime telephone number	Group affiliation (if applicable)	Signature	Date
907-276-0528	AK. Womens Resource	Angie Rosales	4/17/97

To: *Put a √ in the appropriate box(es).*

Committees

H	S	
		Community & Regional Affairs (cra)
		Finance (fin)
		Health, Ed., & Social Services (has)
		Judiciary (jud)
		Labor & Commerce (lac)
		Resources (res)
		Rules (rls)
	✓	State Affairs (sta)
		Transportation (tra)
		Other:
		Other:

Caucuses

	Anchorage (age)
	Bush (bus)
	Fairbanks/Interior (fin)
	Majority (maj)
	Minority (min)

House members

	Austerman (aus)		Kelly, P. (kel)
	Barnes (bar)		Kemplen (kem)
	Berkowitz (ber)		Konning (kon)
	Brice (bri)		Kookesh (koo)
	Bunde (bun)		Kott (kot)
	Cowdery (cwd)		Kubina (kub)
	Croft (cro)		Martin (mar)
	Davies (dav)		Masek (mas)
	Davis (dag)		Moses (mos)
	Dyson (dys)		Mulder (mul)
	Elton (alt)		Nicholia (nic)
	Foster (fos)		Ogan (oga)
	Green (grn)		Phillips, G. (phg)
	Grussendorf (grs)		Porter (por)
	Henley (hen)		Rokeberg (rok)
	Hodgins (hod)		Ryan (rya)
	Hudson (hud)		Sanders (san)
	Ivan (ive)		Therriault (the)
	James (jam)		Vezey (vez)
	Joule (jo)		Williams (wil)

Senate members

	Adams (ada)
	Donley (don)
✓	Duncan (dun)
✓	Ellis (ell)
✓	Green (gre)
	Halford (hal)
	Hoffman (hof)
	Kelly, T. (kel)
	Lemon (lem)
	Lincoln (lin)
✓	Mackie (mak)
✓	Miller (mil)
	Parnell (par)
	Pearce (pea)
	Phillips, R. (phr)
	Sharp (sha)
	Taylor (tay)
	Torgerson (tor)
✓	Ward (war)
	Wilken (wil)

Subject: *Fill out the boxes below OR enter a Subject.*

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:		OR
SB	25		Support / Oppose / Amend	enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify):

Message: *Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.*

I'm	writing	you	in	support
of	VINE	Victims	of	Domestic
violence	are	in	great	need
of	a	Consistant	Firm	of
Notification	D.O.C.'S	implementing	Such	a
program	would	give	victims	the
finance	to	take	precautions	and
get	protection	orders.	this	could
help	Strength	Victims	Rights	and
current	legislation	Thank	you.	

Public Opinion Message

Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO)
• 716 W 4th Avenue, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 • Phone: 258-8111 Fax: 258-1281

This form MUST be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

From: *Please PRINT the information below.*

Ms.	First name: Diana	M.I.: L.	Last name: Burch
Mailing address: 100 West 13th Ave.	Anchorage,	AK	Zip code: 99501
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address			Zip code
Daytime telephone number: 279-9581	Name of affiliation (if applicable): Abused Women's Aid in Crisis	Signature: Diana L. Burch	Date: 4/24/97

To: *Put a √ in the appropriate box(es).*

H or S	Committees	House members		Senate members
	Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	Austerman (aus)	Kelly, P. (kll)	Adams (ada)
	Finance (fin)	Barnes (bar)	Kempton (kem)	Dorsey (dor)
	Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes)	Berkowitz (ber)	Kohring (kor)	Duncan (dun)
	Judiciary (juc)	Brice (bri)	Kookesh (koo)	Ellis (ell)
	Labor & Commerce (l&c)	Bunde (bun)	Kott (kot)	Green (gre)
	Resources (res)	Chenault (che)	Kubina (kub)	Halford (hal)
	Rules (rls)	Cowdery (cwd)	Martin (mar)	Hoffman (hof)
X	State Affairs (sta)	Croft (cro)	Masek (mas)	Kelly, T. (kel)
	Transportation (tra)	Davis (dav)	Moses (mos)	Lemon (lem)
	Other:	Davis (dvs)	Mulder (mul)	Lincoln (lin)
	Other:	Dyson (dys)	Nicholia (nic)	Mackie (mak)
		Elton (elt)	Ogan (oga)	Miller (mil)
		Foster (fos)	Phillips, G. (phg)	Parnell (par)
		Green (gre)	Porter (por)	Pearce (pea)
		Grussendorf (gru)	Rokeberg (rok)	Phillips, R. (phr)
		Hanley (han)	Ryan (rya)	Sharp (sha)
		Hudgins (hud)	Sanders (san)	Taylor (tay)
		Hudson (hus)	Thomas (tho)	Torgerson (tor)
		Ivan (iva)	Vezey (vez)	Ward (war)
		James (jam)	Williams (wil)	Wilken (wil)
		Joule (jo)		

Caucuses

- Anchorage (age)
- Bush (bus)
- Fairbanks/Interior (fai)
- Matsu (mat)
- Majority (maj)
- Minority (min)

Subject: *Fill out the boxes below OR enter a Subject.*

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	OR enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify):
SB	25	X Support / Oppose / Amend	

Message: *Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.*

AWAIC's primary concern is victim safety. Victims need to be able to begin to lead normal lives. They can often only do this when they know the whereabouts of their perpetrator. Additionally, this bill will give a clear message to victims that the system is working for them and is on their side. Too often they are denied information about their perpetrator which increases their feelings of victimization.

Senate State Affairs 465-3805

would ultimately provide more jobs and income evenly across the board. By the way, I am a conservative Republican.

— *Dennis Adamson*
Anchorage

Cuts to Film Office costly

I own and operate one of Alaska's major stock photography agencies which represents 58 photographers. For the past seven years we have provided numerous award-winning photos for the state Film Office's advertising campaigns (five billboards, several location handbooks, direct mail pieces and many ads in movie trade magazines). The Film Office has been a great client over the years.

If the proposed budget cuts go through, it will have a lasting and negative effect on many small businesses and one of Alaska's largest industries — tourism. Last year it cost the state of Alaska $261,000 to operate the Film Office and it generated an income of nearly $3 million. Can we afford not to take advantage of this free advertising that promotes Alaska?

The Film Office has a proven record that it is a prime investment, generating income for Alaskans and also for the state of Alaska. With the proposed budget cuts, we lose and the state of Alaska loses.

— *Ken Graham, owner*
Ken Graham Agency
Anchorage

Drug testing violates privacy

The willingness of people to permit themselves to be degraded through arbitrary employment drug testing is appalling. Indiscriminate drug testing violates people's privacy and requires them to prove their "innocence" even though there is no reason to believe that their job performance is being impaired by drug use or anything else. Admirably, the Anchorage police and firefighters have the self-respect to oppose such testing.

Drug testing is ostensibly done to promote job safety and performance. But drug tests do not measure job performance; they generally only test for metabolites, which are what is left over in the body after it uses up a drug. Except with respect to alcohol, drug tests generally don't even determine whether a person presently has a particular drug in the body. A person could be under the influence of an intoxicating drug at the time of a drug test and yet have the test result be negative.

The only rational way to promote job performance and safety is through performance testing. Such tests are even used for astronauts in the space program. With them, an employer can determine whether an employee is functioning safely or impaired by sickness, fatigue, injury, emotional distress or intoxication.

Drug testing is too limited and unreliable to be used to promote job performance and public safety. The invasion of privacy involved such testing should be considered to be unacceptable. We should support all efforts to eliminate workplace drug testing and, if some kind of testing is desirable and necessary, replace it with performance tests.

— *Alex Vasauskas*
Palmer

Victims need notification

For the tens of thousands of victims of domestic violence in Alaska, there is no system in place to let them know when their perpetrator is released from jail. Often the first time a victim knows that their assailant has been released is when he shows up at their door.

Perpetrators who were jailed for beating their spouse may use their children as pawns in order to "get back" at the victim. If the perpetrator is the biological father of a victim's child, he may take the child from school or day care without the other parent's knowledge, threatening to harm or kidnap the child.

If victims knew that their perpetrator was being released from jail, they could get a restraining order and notify their child's school or day care about the potentially dangerous situation.

Every week, our agency hears stories about how victims, who are supposed to be protected by the law, are betrayed by a system that lacks follow-through.

Sen. Johnny Ellis and Rep. Allen Kemplen have introduced a bill that could change all this. Senate Bill 25 and the companion bill, House Bill 47, would allow the Department of Corrections to set up a system to notify victims whenever a perpetrator's status changed. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, registered victims would be notified through an automated system within minutes.

The system, called Victim Information and Notification Everyday, gives victims time to take life-saving steps. VINE is being used in Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida — helping victims and their children stay out of harm's way. Please call your legislator or write a letter in support for SB 25 and HB 47. The successful passage of this bill may mean the difference between life and death for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

— *Angelica Rosales*
domestic violence supervising counselor
Alaska Women's Resource Center

HMOs ripping off Medicare

Medicare rip-off! I recently received a newspaper clipping from a Southern California newspaper concerning a merger of two HMOs. I am a little familiar with the FHP HMO since my foster mother was enrolled until a few weeks ago. The clipping is too long to quote entirely, but here are a few highlights that bother me:

"Top bosses would qualify for huge payouts after HMO merger. A handful of senior executives at FHP International Corp. stands to get huge going-away paydays ... At the top of the list is FHP chief executive Wescott W. Price III who will receive a $1.5 million golden handshake if he walks away, as expected. Price's contract calls for him to get three times his annual $500,000 base salary if he loses his job because of a 'change in control' ... Price also owns nearly 400,000 shares of FHP's common stock. He'll receive $7 million in cash for those shares and an equal amount of PacifiCare stock.

"FHP Chairman Jack R. Anderson will get the biggest payday, turning in his common and preferred FHP stock for $53.7 million in cash and an equal amount of PacifiCare stock. And Richard M. Burdge, an FHP director, retired Cigna Corp. executive and former president of the American Stock Exchange, will get $15.3 million in cash and an equal amount of PacifiCare shares for his FHP stock.

alive, i.e., the state of Alaska vs. Venetie.

We Natives don't read in the newspapers nor do we see on television anything about what is really happening to us, though I know; and the "nouveau riche PFD Alaskans" are in denial about their role in all of this, while we "breathlessly" await an Alaska vs. Venetie decision for the next 20 years or so — at the rate we've been dying, please, Natives want to live! We are in constant peril from the state. We are not "merely" caretakers of the land. We Natives have kept our Alaska under our intrinsic watch for three ice ages or so — wasn't it always beautiful and clean here?

My advice to you, to whom this may apply — everyone — make sure those lands you left in disgust are cleaned up and go home. On your way out clean up Alaska.

— *Evelyn Hash*
Gakona

This alternative school works

With the March 28 lottery date for Anchorage School District's alternative school programs approaching, I would like to offer a program that is a success in every sense of the word — the Government Hill Spanish Immersion Program. Alternative schools are often criticized for being elitist, unfair or divisive. I think it's important to recognize that they can work and be inclusive — even in school-within-a-school settings such as our own.

The recent Government Hill World's Fair is an example. With the help and support of our sponsors — First National Bank of Anchorage, Tastee Freez, Tesoro 7-Eleven and National Bank of Alaska, to name a few — we transformed the school into an international festival. Our many minority families participated. Korean women wore flowing han bok dresses, an Alaska Native puppet theater group entertained, and Latino parents cooked tostados and fried plantains. We shared and explored each other's cultures throughout the day.

By celebrating and understanding our differences, we discover that we are not so different after all.

Government Hill is proof that alternative programs work. Not only do they promote educational excellence, but when done right, they bring people together.

— *Kathlyn Gerlek*
Anchorage

Victims for Justice

March 1997

"Safe Neighborhood" Crime Initiatives

By Pearlene Hernandez-Villa
UAA Social Work Practicum Student
doing her internship with VFJ

BILL TRACKING STATUS

As of March 12, 1997

HB 5

"An Act relating to prosecution of minors for criminal violations; and amending Rule 3(a), Alaska Rules of Criminal Procedure."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) KELLY, Ogan

Current Status: (House) Judiciary Status Date: 1/13/97 then Finance.

As of January 13, 1997, House Bill 5 has not had its first committee hearing. HB 5 is not expected to move during this session. Sponsors are putting their focus on HB 6 AND HB 16 in the juvenile crime area. Both HB 6 and HB 16 opens up confidentiality of juvenile crime offenders, a key component for victims of crime.

HB 6

"An Act amending laws relating to the disclosure of information relating to certain minors."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) KELLY, Therriault, Vezey, Ogan, Dyson, Phillips, Ryan

Current Status: (House) Finance Status Date: 2/21/97

As of February 21, 1997, House Finance has heard House Bill 6 three times. HB 6 will be heard by House for the fourth time on March 20, 1997. HB 6 has been in Health Education and Social Service (HES) and Judiciary committee and passed out of committee.

HB 7

CSHB 7 Judiciary
"An Act authorizing establishment of community dispute resolution centers to foster the resolution of disputes between juvenile offenders and their victims, and providing immunity from civil suits for youth courts and for members of the boards of directors, employees, volunteers, and members of youth courts."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) PORTER, Green, Croft, Rokeberg, James, Kubina, Bunde, Kemplen, Berkowitz, Organ
SENATOR(S) Wilken

Current Status: (Senate) Judiciary Status Dddate: 2/17/97 then Finance

House Bill 7 is in Senate Judiciary, it has passed out of the House and is in Senate Judiciary Committee at this time.
House votes:
YEAS: 34 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 6 ABSENT: 0

HB 9

CSHB 9 (Finance) AM
"Victims Right to be Present at Trial."
"An Act relating to the rights of crime victims and victims of juvenile offenses; relating to the collection by victims of restitution from prisoners; relating to the definition of incapacitated for sexual offenses; creating the crime of interfering with a report of a crime involving domestic violence; relating to mental examinations of victims in criminal prosecutions; relating to the safety of victims, other persons, and the community in setting bail or conditions of release; relating to access to certain records of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board; amending Rule 6, Alaska Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rules 404 and 615, Alaska Rules of Evidence, and Rule 3, Alaska Delinquency Rules; and providing for an effective date."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) PORTER, Green, Croft, Kubina, Kemplen

Current Status: (S) Judiciary Status Date: 3/10/97 then Finance.

House Bill 9 has passed out of House and is in Senate Judiciary since March 10, 1997.
House votes
Passed on reconsideration YES 31 NAYS 6 EXCUSED 2 ABSENT 1

URGENT UPDATE - We have just received word Senator Robin Taylor is holding up HB 9. PLEASE CALL the legislative office at 258-8111 and send a public opinion message to Senator Taylor urging him to support HB 9. Crime victims' constitutional rights are in jeopardy!

HCR 4

Relating to records generated and maintained by the Department of Health and Social Services.

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) KELLY, Phillips, Dyson, Ryan, Barnes

Current Status: (House) Finance Status Date: 2/21/97

House Concurrent Resolution 4 is in House Finance since February 21, 1997. House Finance is going to hear in committee on March 20, 1997.

SB 25 HB 47

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

VINE™, provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. VINE 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.

Senate Bill 25 is still waiting to be heard in Senate State Affair Committee since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a hearing committee as of yet.

House Bill 47 has been in House State Affairs since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

SB 25 Sponsor(s): SENATOR ELLIS, Donley
HB 47 Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE KEMPLEN

SB 26 and HB 48

"An Act making a special appropriation for an automated victim notification system; and providing for an effective date."

The sum of $250,000 shall be appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Corrections for an automated victim notification system for fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

Senate Bill 26 has been in Senate State Affairs since January 13, 1997. It has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

House Bill 48 has been in House State Affairs since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

Sponsor(s): SENATOR ELLIS, Donley

Both SB 25 and HB 47 need victims who would be willing to testify or submit written testimony regarding their experience with not being notified when their attacker was released. If you are interested in tesifying or providing written testimony please contact:

Senator Lyda Green, Senate State Affairs, State Capitol, Rm 105, Juneau, AK 99801-1182 (800)565-3743

Representative Jeannette James, House State Affairs, Rm 102, Juneau, AK 99801-1182.