

SB

244

Alaska State Legislature

Senate



JERRY WARD

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SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 244

“An Act relating to polygraph or other lie-detecting testing for certain correctional officers”

Senate Bill 244 allow for the administering of polygraph tests to correctional officers or persons applying for employment as correctional officers. Presently, only police officers and certain transportation officers are subject to polygraph testing. Correctional officers are in positions of great power, and many are armed like other law enforcement officers. Polygraph testing is no less in order for correctional officers than for other law enforcement personnel.

Polygraph testing is a way to insure the character and integrity of correctional officers, as well as the safety of inmates and other correctional employees. Polygraph testing is a proven method of screening employees for positions requiring high security and safety. This legislation will protect the State of Alaska and its citizens.

ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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Senator Jerry Ward
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

February 11, 1998

Dear Senator Ward,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA), I would like to thank you for introducing SB 244 relating to polygraph testing for certain correctional officers.

At a recent meeting of the APOA Board of Directors, we unanimously agreed to endorse SB 244. We feel that this legislation will help ensure that only the most qualified of applicants will be selected for critical correctional officer positions and that the use of polygraph testing is a valuable tool in this process.

Please contact us if there is anything we can do to assist you with this bill as it proceeds through the legislative process. You may contact us at the APOA office in Anchorage at 277-0515.

Once again, thank you for sponsoring this legislation.

Sincerely,

John Charbonneau
State President
Alaska Peace Officers Association

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