

SB

244

GARY WILKEN

SENATOR
Fairbanks

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Alaska State Legislature

Senate

During Session:
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Ralph Seekins, Chairman
Judiciary Committee

FROM: Senator Gary Wilken *Gary Wilken
sp*

DATE: January 15, 2004

RE: Senate Bill 244 – Increase Fine For School Zone Violations

I respectfully request that Senate Bill 244, Increase Fine For School Zone Violations, be scheduled for a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 244 doubles the fine assessed for a motor vehicle violation in a school zone, not to exceed \$600.00. This legislation reconfirms our commitment to safety for all, but especially for children.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in scheduling a hearing.

GARY WILKEN

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Fairbanks

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3 STATEMENTS – 3 FACTS

SENATE BILL 244 Increase Fine For School Zone Violations

3 Statements:

- 1) Senate Bill 244 will heighten the awareness of drivers in school zones to slow down and be more cautious.
- 2) Senate Bill 244 elevates the seriousness of school zone violations.
- 3) Senate Bill 244 will help keep our children safer when walking to and from school by slowing traffic down.

3 Facts:

- 1) Senate Bill 244 doubles the fine for violations committed in a school zone.
- 2) Under the passage of Senate Bill 244, the maximum fine will be raised to \$600.
- 3) Signage will be posted in school zones to inform drivers of the double fine.

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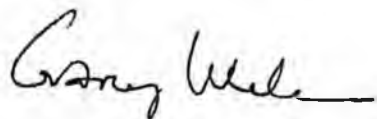
SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Bill 244 Increase Fine For School Zone Violations

Senate Bill 244 doubles the fine assessed for motor vehicle or traffic offenses committed in a school zone. This bill mirrors a law passed by the Alaska State Legislature in 1998, which doubled the fine for violations committed in a highway work zone. Senate Bill 244 not only elevates the seriousness of school zones violations, but also reconfirms our commitment to the safety of children.

Because of the high concentration of children walking to and from school, most often in poor visibility conditions, drivers need to be ever vigilant in a school zone. Appropriate signage will alert drivers of the double fine and will remind them to slow down and be extra cautious.

Please join me in protecting our children by endorsing and passing Senate Bill 244.



FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB244-ACS-TC-1-23-04
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title Offenses committed in school zones BRU Alaska Court System
 Component Trial Courts
 Sponsor Senator Wilken
 Requester _____ Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
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						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2004) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2005 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The Alaska Court System does not anticipate any fiscal impact from the passage of SB 244.

Prepared by: Doug Wooliver Administrative Attorney Phone 463-4750
 Division Alaska Court System Date/Time 1/23/04 9:03 AM
 Approved by: Stephanie Cole Administrative Director by Doug Wooliver Date 1/23/2004
 Agency Alaska Court System

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB244-DPS-AST-1-26-04
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: DPS
 Title Increase Fines for School Zone Vio. RDU Alaska State Troopers
 Component AST Detachment
 Sponsor Sen. Wilken
 Requester Senate Judiciary Component No. 2325

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
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						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
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1005 GF/Program Receipts						
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Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2004) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2005 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill will double the amount of a fine imposed for traffic infractions committed in a school zone. This in essence, will make the penalties for these infractions the same as the penalties for traffic infractions committed in highway work zones.

To implement the provisions of this bill, the Department of Public Safety will be required to work with the Department of Transportation to modify existing traffic regulations. The cost of accomplishing the regulation changes is anticipated to be minimal.

No fiscal impact to the Department of Public Safety is anticipated.

Prepared by: Lt. Al Storey
 Division: Alaska State Troopers
 Approved by: Commissioner William Tandeske
 Agency: Department of Public Safety

Phone 269-4532
 Date/Time 1/29/04 10:32 PM
 Date 1/29/2004

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13 AAC 02.325. SPECIAL SPEED LIMITATIONS. (a) No person may drive a motor-driven cycle when lights are required to be turned on as prescribed under 13 AAC 04.010 at a speed greater than allowed by the intensity of the headlights as provided by 13 AAC 04.320.

(b) No person may drive a vehicle which is towing a mobile home at a speed greater than 45 miles per hour.

(c) No person may drive a vehicle equipped with lighted headlights described in 13 AAC 04.020(g) at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions specified in 13 AAC 04.010.

(d) No person may drive a vehicle at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour when passing a marked public school or playground crosswalk that is posted with an official school, school crossing or speed-control sign. The speed zone at the crosswalk extends 300 feet in either direction from the marked crosswalk.

(e) No person may drive a vehicle passing a school bus displaying alternately flashing yellow lights as provided in 13 AAC 04.097(b) at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour.

(f) No person may drive a vehicle or a combination of vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure or through a tunnel or underpass constituting a part of a highway, ferry facility or city street at a rate of speed or with a gross weight or of a size which is greater than the maximum speed or maximum weight or size designated by an official traffic-control device. (In effect before 7/28/59; am 12/15/61, Register 3; am 8/10/66, Register 22; am 12/31/69, Register 31; am 6/28/79, Register 70; am 10/2/92, Register 123)

Authority: AS 28.05.011

13 AAC 02.330. RACING ON HIGHWAYS. (a) No person may participate in a race between motor vehicles upon a public highway, except as provided in AS 05.90.001.

(b) As used in this section, "race" means the use of one or more vehicles in attempting to outgain or outdistance another vehicle or while comparing or contesting relative speeds or powers of acceleration of the vehicles over a specified or unspecified distance or route, whether or not the speed exceeds the maximum prescribed by law (Eff 12/31/69, Register 31; am 6/28/79, Register 70; am 10/2/92, Register 123)

Authority: AS 28.05.011

ARTICLE 8. STOPPING, STANDING, AND PARKING.

Section	Section
340 Stopping, standing, or parking on highway and in other locations	350 (Repealed)
345 Officers authorized to remove vehicles	355 (Repealed)
	360 (Repealed)
	365 Additional parking regulations

Section	Section
tions made in driver improvement interview	280. (Repeated)
270. (Repeated)	285. Administrative review of suspension for point accumulation
275. Form of notice of suspension for point accumulation	290. Definitions

13 AAC 08.210. DEMERIT POINT SCHEDULE. For purposes of administratively identifying habitually reckless or negligent drivers and habitual or frequent violators of traffic laws and in order to identify problem drivers, the following violations will be accorded these corresponding numerical weights upon conviction:

Violation or Type of Violations	Point Value
(1) except as provided in (18) of this section, driving while license cancelled, suspended, or revoked, or in violation of license limitation	10
(2) except as provided in (20) of this section, driving while intoxicated	10
(3) reckless driving	10
(4) speed contest-racing	10
(5) fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer	10
(6) leaving scene of accident	9
(7) negligent driving	6
(8) failure to yield right-of-way to authorized emergency vehicle	6
(9) failure to stop for school bus while bus is loading or unloading	6
(10) failure to obey official traffic control device in school zone, playground crosswalk, or park	6
(11) speeding:	
in school zone or playground crosswalk	6
3 — 9 miles per hour over limit	2
10 — 19 miles per hour over limit	4
20 or more miles per hour over limit	6
(12) violation of oversize or overweight permit pertaining to restriction on speed:	
3 — 9 miles per hour over limit	2
10 — 19 miles per hour over limit	4
20 or more miles per hour over limit	6
on hours of operation	3
(13) careless driving	4
(14) following too closely	4
(15) failure to stop or yield	4
(16) assault with vehicle	10
(17) negligent homicide or manslaughter with a vehicle	10

Violation or Type of Violations	Point Value
(18) driving a commercial motor vehicle while commercial driver's license disqualified, cancelled, suspended, revoked, or in violation of a license limitation	10
(19) driving a commercial motor vehicle after being ordered "out of service" under 49 C.F.R. 396.9(c) or AS 28.33.130(c) ...	6
(20) driving a commercial motor vehicle while intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance	10
(21) all others	2

(Eff. 11/4/74, Register 52; am 3/29/75, Register 53; am 12/1/78, Register 68; am 9/28/80, Register 76; am 3/28/82, Register 81; am 10/2/92, Register 123; am 10/1/94, Register 131)

Authority: AS 28.05.011 - AS 28.15.221 AS 28.32.080

13 AAC 08.220. POINT ACCUMULATION — APPLICATION TO DRIVER RECORD; COVERAGE. (a) Repealed 12/1/78.

(b) Coverage and Application to Operators. 13 AAC 08.210 -- 13 AAC 08.290 apply to all operators of motor vehicles in this state, whether licensed or unlicensed in this state.

(c) Point Accumulation — Action by Department. Upon the accumulation of six demerit points in any consecutive 12-month period or upon the accumulation of nine demerit points in any consecutive 24-month period, as reflected by a person's driving record, the department will send a warning letter advising the person of his present driving status and the possibility of future action against the person's driver's license by the department. The warning letter will be sent by regular first class mail to the current address of the person as listed in the department's records.

(d) Repealed 12/1/78.
(Eff. 11/4/74, Register 52; am 12/1/78, Register 68; am 3/28/82, Register 81)

Authority: AS 28.15.221 AS 28.15.231

13 AAC 08.230. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGE -- DURATION. (a) The department will suspend a person's driving privilege for one month upon an initial accumulation of 12 or more points as the result of offenses committed during any consecutive 12-month period or 18 or more points as a result of offenses committed during any consecutive 24-month period.

(b) If within 24 consecutive months from the effective date of a prior suspension for point accumulation a person again accrues demerit points requiring the withdrawal of a driving privilege, the driving privilege will be suspended for three months.

(9) "season" means one calendar year beginning October 1 and ending September 30;

(10) "snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle primarily designed or altered for travel on snow or ice when supported in part by skis, belts, or cleats; "snowmobile" does not include machinery used strictly for the grooming of snowmobile trails or ski slopes. (§ 1 ch 134 SLA 1998)

Chapter 40. General Provisions.

Section	Section
50. Penalties for violations of law, regulations, and municipal ordinances	100. Definitions for title
60. Breath test result validity	110. Short title
70. Fines for offenses committed within highway work zones doubled	

Sec. 28.40.050. Penalties for violations of law, regulations, and municipal ordinances. (a) It is a misdemeanor for a person to violate a provision of this title unless the violation is by this title or other law declared to be a felony or an infraction.

(b) A person convicted of a misdemeanor for a violation of a provision of this title for which another penalty is not specifically provided is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both. In addition, the privilege to drive or the registration of vehicles may be suspended or revoked.

(c) Unless otherwise specified by law a person convicted of a violation of a regulation adopted under this title, or a municipal ordinance regulating vehicles or traffic when the municipal ordinance does not correspond to a provision of this title, is guilty of an infraction and is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$300.

(d) An infraction, as provided for in (c) of this section, is not considered a criminal offense and may not result in imprisonment, nor is a fine imposed for the commission of an infraction considered a penal or criminal punishment; nor may the commission of a single infraction result in the loss of a driver's license or privilege to drive in this state except as may result from the accumulation of points under AS 28.15.221 — 28.15.261, or the registration of vehicles; nor does a person cited with an infraction have a right to trial by jury or to court-appointed counsel.

(e) [Repealed, § 5 ch 85 SLA 1987.] (§ 50-1-8 ACLA 1949; am § 12 ch 241 SLA 1976, am §§ 22, 23 ch 144 SLA 1977; am § 5 ch 85 SLA 1987)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 28.35.230. Re-numbered in 1984.

NOTES TO DECISIONS

This section governs the penalties for violations of this title, and creates three categories of traffic offenses: felonies, misdemeanors and infractions. *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978).

Violations of AS 28.36.050(a) are punishable under this section. *Druhosh v. State*, 442 P.2d 44 (Alaska 1968).

Prerequisite to suspension of license or privilege to drive. — A driver's license or privilege to drive cannot properly be suspended unless the driver was in fact licensed or otherwise actually privileged to drive a motor vehicle within the state. *Roberts v. State*, 700 P.2d 815 (Alaska Ct. App. 1985).

Generic penalty provision. — Subsection (b) is not a penalty provision dealing specifically with the offense of driving while license suspended; rather it is a generic penalty provision, broadly applicable to violations of all Title 28 provisions for which the specific penalties are given. *Roberts v. State*, 700 P.2d 815 (Alaska Ct. App. 1985).

Meaning of "law" in subsection (c). — The term "law," as used in subsection (c) of this section, refers to statutory enactments of the Alaska legislature and cannot be read to include the provisions of municipal ordinances. *Anderson v. Municipality of Anchorage*, 645 P.2d 205 (Alaska Ct. App. 1982).

Nature of "correspondence" between ordinance and statute required by subsection (c). — The requirement of correspondence stated in subsection (c) of this section calls for a level of similarity between a municipal ordinance and a provision of AS 28 that would make the ordinance a functional equivalent of its statutory counterpart. *Anderson v. Municipality of Anchorage*, 645 P.2d 205 (Alaska Ct. App. 1982).

The legislature's purpose in enacting subsection (d) was to eliminate the criminal stigma from minor traffic offenses while keeping the enforcement of such offenses within the criminal system's procedures. *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978)

A prosecution for a traffic infraction is a quasi-criminal proceeding to which certain criminal procedures including the issuance of warrants are applicable. *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978).

Although the language in subsection (d) with regard to an infraction not being considered a criminal offense nor a fine therefor a criminal punishment indicates that the legislature did not intend to make minor traffic offenses criminal offenses, it does not follow that the legislature by labeling infractions "noncriminal" meant that they are civil in nature and thus that criminal procedures are not available for the enforcement of infractions. *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978).

Notwithstanding the legislative labeling of a traffic infraction a noncriminal offense by this section, it retains many criminal terms, such as "convicted," "violation," "guilty," "punishable by a fine." *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978).

An infraction is not an offense for double jeopardy purposes. *Carlson v. State*, 676 P.2d 603 (Alaska Ct. App. 1984).

Jury trial. — AS 28.10.105(a) (now repealed) and the other registration statutes in pari materia do not specify a violation of the registration statutes as an infraction, and thus under this section, such a violation is a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days'

imprisonment, and entitling a defendant to a jury trial, denial of which right constitutes prejudicial error, requiring a new trial. *Epperly v. State*, 648 P.2d 609 (Alaska Ct. App. 1982).

Traditional use of criminal process not affected. — In the absence of express contrary declaration, the legislature did not intend by the enactment of subsection (d) to affect the traditional use of the criminal process for enforcement of traffic infractions. *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978).

This section makes no changes in the traditional mode of proceeding in criminal matters with the exception of its declaration that a person cited with an infraction does not have a right to trial by jury or to court-appointed counsel. The action is brought in the name of the state; it is commenced by the filing of a complaint by a law enforcement official, it is prosecuted by the district attorney. The exceptions appear to merely codify existing constitutional law. *State v. Clayton*, 584 P.2d 1111 (Alaska 1978).

Applied in *Manderson v. State*, 655 P.2d 1320 (Alaska Ct. App. 1983).

Stated in *Francis v. Municipality of Anchorage*, 641 P.2d 226 (Alaska Ct. App. 1982).

Quoted in *State v. Dutch Harbor Seafoods, Ltd.*, 965 P.2d 738 (Alaska 1998).

Cited in *Lowry v. State*, 655 P.2d 780 (Alaska Ct. App. 1982).

Collateral references. — 7A Am Jur 2d, Automobiles and Highway Traffic, § 204.

61A C.J.S., Motor Vehicles, §§ 588 to 595.

Sec. 28.40.060. Breath test result validity. Except for an offense under AS 28.35.280, if an offense described under this title requires that a chemical test of a person's breath produce a particular result, and the chemical test is administered by a properly calibrated instrument approved by the Department of Public Safety, the result described by statute is not affected by the instrument's working tolerance. (§ 17 ch 143 SLA 1996)

Effective dates. — Section 17, ch. 143, SLA 1996, which enacted this section, took effect on November 8, 1996.

Editor's notes. — Section 22, ch. 143, SLA 1996 provides that "Sections 1-13 and 17-21 of this Act

apply only to acts committed on or after November 8, 1996 except that to the extent that the amendments made by §§ 6, 7, 10, 11, and 18-21 of this Act involve prior convictions, those prior convictions may have occurred before, on, or after November 8, 1996."

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Effect of section on definition of driving while intoxicated. — The practical effect of this section is to modify the definition of driving while intoxicated under AS 28.35.030(a)(2); the fact that a driver's true blood-alcohol or breath-alcohol level may be slightly lower, due to Intoximeter's acknowledged margin of error, is no longer relevant to guilt under AS 28.35.030(a)(2). *Mangapane v. Municipality of Anchorage*, 974 P.2d 427 (Alaska Ct. App. 1999).

Working tolerance of intoximeter. — In light of

the history of the intoximeter and its established working tolerance, the discussion in *Haynes v. State, Dep't of Public Safety*, 865 P.2d 753 (Alaska 1993), and the language of this section, it is clear that the legislature implicitly decided that a .01 percent working tolerance was "tolerably inaccurate," and, therefore, irrelevant to the driver's guilt under AS 28.35.030(a)(2), and not in violation of state or federal due process rights. *Bushnell v. State*, 5 P.3d 889 (Alaska Ct. App. 2000).

Sec. 28.40.070. Fines for offenses committed within highway work zones doubled. Whenever a person violates a provision of this title or a regulation adopted under the authority of this title within a highway work zone, notwithstanding the amount of the fine or the maximum fine set under this title, the fine, or maximum fine, is double the amount provided in this title. (§ 2 ch 64 SLA 1998)

State of Alaska
 Department of Public Safety
 School Zone Violations
 FY 2003

School Zone Citations				
Agency	S50	S91	S99	Total
Alaska State Troopers	1	2	23	26
Anchorage Police Department	2	32	376	410
Fairbanks Police Department	0	0	10	10
Juneau Police Department	0	0	14	14
Ketchikan Police Department	0	0	2	2
Palmer Police Department	0	0	3	3
Sitka Police Department	0	0	7	7
Skagway Police Department	0	0	2	2
Wasilla Police Department	0	0	7	7
				0
All Agencies Total	3	34	444	481

Citation Descriptions
S50 - Speed-School Zone _____ (allows recording of exact speed)
S91 - Speed 41 mph over or more (School Zone) *
S99 - Speed School Zone

*Note: Per DMV the S91 code is intended to be used for School Zone speeding violations.
 It appears it has been used to record non-School zone speeding violations in some cases

Dear Senator Wilken,

December 31, 2003

My name is Bob Myers. I am the day custodian at Anne Wien Elementary, in the Fairbanks Northstar Borough School District. Anne Wien is located on Danby Street in Fairbanks.

One of my morning duties is as a crossing guard on Danby Street. We have military housing across Danby and we have two intersections that feed military students to Anne Wien and Randy Smith Middle School. Due to funding, we have only one crossing guard from Laidlaw Transportation. Leslie Campbell, our Principle at Anne Wien, has asked me to be the crossing guard at the other one. I have been doing this for four years.

In four years, I have seen many things at this intersection. Danby's speed limit is normally 40 but reduces to 20 during crossing hours. Speeding is a daily occurrence. Peak time for my students to cross is at the same time as the peak of the morning rush hour. Other experiences I have encountered include cars running through my stop sign, with students in the crosswalk and cars sliding sideways at me on slick roads.

In four years, I have had a lot of time to think about ways to make things safer for MY KIDS. Some of the things I have done are using my cell phone to call the number on the side of speeding commercial vehicles, including the school busses. I wrote a Letter to the Editor of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. I park my personal vehicle next the road and hang banners on it, with slogans as reminders such as : Want to save some money? Just keep it under twenty. or 20 MPH feels like a crawl. doesn't it?

These things have helped some, but not enough. The Fairbanks Police help as much as they can, considering their budget.

This summer, while traveling Alaska Highways, I encountered construction zones and they had these brightly printed signs announcing "Double Fines" for traffic violations in these zones. My question then is this: If we want to protect or construction workers like this, why not or children?

In my own experience, the signs currently in the school zones are not big enough, are not bright enough and don't point to a big enough penalty. The flashing lights are located on a few poles along the school zone route.

In Florida, the school zone signs are much larger, and suspended over the roadway, with flashing lights on these.

In my opinion, our kids could be much safer with brighter larger signs, better placed and with warnings of more sever penalties, such as construction zones have.

Senator, I was delighted this morning when Shirley, from your office, called me and told me you had felt this a good idea and planned to introduce a bill to address the added safety of our children.

I thank you for taking this on and I look forward to tracking this bill through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Bob Myers
2084 Lakeview Terrace
Fairbanks, AK 99701

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FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4756

(907) 452-2000

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January 23, 2004

The Honorable Gary Wilken
Alaskan Senate
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Wilken:

It has been brought to my attention that you are sponsoring legislation that would address fines for offenses committed within school zones through SB244, specifically a fine or bail would in essence double if committed within a school zone.

As superintendent of an urban school system, I wholeheartedly support this concept. Approximately two-thirds of our 15,000 students walk to school each day. The majority of our school year these children walk in dark conditions, oftentimes without the advantage of streetlights or sidewalks while their visibility may be hindered because of being dressed in winter gear. As you can imagine, our younger students may forget traffic safety when they get excited as they see their friends close to the school grounds. We do what we can for safety by hiring crossing guards, teaching traffic safety, sewing reflective tape on outer wear, etc., but alerting drivers about higher traffic fines in school zones cannot hurt and would be one more measure of safety.

I believe it is a good idea to bring to the forefront that drivers need to obey the traffic speeds in school zones or pay double the consequence. This has been the case in other states and I am proud that Alaska is willing to make this worthwhile step in the protection of our youngsters.

Please count me as a supporter of SB244.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann E. Shortt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann E. Shortt, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools
/plh