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# Alaska State Legislature

## Senator Hollis French

### Senate Bill 114 Probation and Parole Officers' Caseloads

Senate Bill 114 establishes a maximum caseload for probation and parole officers at any given time.

Currently probation/parole officers in the Anchorage area are often responsible for caseloads of over 100 cases. This creates a situation where inadequate time is available both to protect the public and to provide guidance and assistance to probationers and parolees to reduce the chances they will violate terms of probation or commit another crime.

Casework varies, but casework may include duties such as home visits, office visits, employment checks, and contact with other agencies such as law enforcement or social service agencies. Probation/parole officers use a range of sanctions and treatment interventions to reduce the chance that an offender will commit a new crime. Research shows that approach is successful and cost-effective.

Providing probation and parole officers with the opportunity to work with offenders is good for public safety and will reduce the amount we spend on prisons. I encourage your support of this important legislation.