

**SB**

**178**

<TARGET><BILL>SB 178</BILL><SUBJECT>SB  
178</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA29</COMM></TARGET>

# Alaska State Legislature

Session:  
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Senator Lesil McGuire

## MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Bill Stoltze, Chair, Senate State Affairs Committee  
From: Senator Lesil McGuire  
Date: February 23, 2016  
Re: SB 178 Limited license for DUI; Treatment & Interlock

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I respectfully request that Senate Bill 178 "An Act relating to limitation of a driver's license," to be heard on the Senate State Affairs Committee at your earliest convenience. SB 178 modifies DUI laws to allow offenders the use of a modified driver's license if they voluntarily enter an alcohol testing program and use an ignition interlock device on each vehicle they operate.

Attached to this memo please find:

- SB 178 Version A
- Sponsor Statement
- 24/7 Alcohol and Drug Sobriety testing results
- Driving under the influence pamphlet
- 2000-2009 DUI Arrest Violations in Alaska
- Compass: We need more tactics like 24/7 Sobriety
- State of Intoxication: Daily Breathalyzer to be used statewide
- Rand Report Attributes Drops in DUI, Domestic Violence in South Dakota to 24/7 Sobriety Project
- Chicago Tribune, Editorial Board, August 28, 2015

The contact for SB 178 is Trevor Gutierrez, 465-2995

Thank you.

Alaska State Legislature  
Senate Judiciary Committee

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Senator Lesil McGuire, Chair

Sponsor Statement

*"An Act relating to limitation of a driver's license."*

SB 178 removes one of the major barriers facing persons convicted of DUI offenses. When a person is arrested for a second DUI offense their driver's license is immediately confiscated and their privilege to operate a motor vehicle is revoked for a minimum period of one year. For third time offenders the revocation is a minimum of 3 years. These mandatory minimums place extreme hardships on the individual and their families. In many cases maintaining their current employment is almost impossible and day to day responsibilities become extremely challenging. Harsh weather conditions and limited public transportation options increase the offender's frustration resulting in many people choosing to drive with a revoked license.

States that have successfully reduced repeat DUI offenses implemented a restricted driver's license as an incentive for offenders to voluntarily enter an alcohol testing program. This program, known as 24/7 Sobriety testing helps individuals work toward Sobriety one day at a time while assuring the public the individual is not drinking and driving. The 24/7 Sobriety program requires a person to show up at a testing site and blow twice per day for a minimum of 90-120 days. Upon successful completion of the program the participants must provide proof they have installed an ignition interlock device on each vehicle they operate. This device must remain on the vehicle for the remainder of the previous revocation period.

In Alaska approximately 1600 individuals are convicted of second and third time DUI's each year. The 24/7 Sobriety program has proven to be extremely successful in reducing recidivism in other states. In 2014 the Department of Health and Social Services implemented a 24/7 Sobriety testing pilot project. In 2015 a total of 808 participants were assigned to the program. 48,968 alcohol breath tests were administered and 6,556 witnessed UA's were completed. The recidivism rate was less than 2 (two) percent.