

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES, 2003-2004 8672

11040 HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

**PERMIT ISSUANCE CRITERIA  
FOR STATES WHICH ISSUE  
CONCEALED WEAPON PERMITS TO NON-RESIDENTS  
(As compared to Alaska's qualifications)**

*Alaska* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
  - 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law\*
  - 3) Not been convicted of two or more Class A misdemeanors within six years
  - 4) Not in last three years ordered to complete alcohol/substance abuse program
- 

*Arizona* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) No felony indictment or conviction
- 3) Does not suffer from mental illness nor has been adjudicated mentally incompetent
- 4) Fingerprints to FBI for national criminal history check

*Florida* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law
- 3) No misdemeanor crime of violence in last three years
- 4) Not committed for substance abuse or convicted of a crime relating to controlled substances within three years
- 5) Does not chronically and habitually use alcohol, as provided by Florida law

*Idaho* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law
- 3) No misdemeanor crime of violence in last three years
- 4) Not an unlawful user of or addicted to controlled substance
- 5) Not currently suffering from mental illness nor has been adjudicated mentally ill
- 6) Not subject to protection order

*Indiana* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
  - 2) No felony conviction
  - 3) Must be of good character and reputation
  - 4) Applicant must have a "proper reason" to carry a handgun
- note: Issuance to non-residents seems to be limited to those who have a regular place of business or employment in Indiana.

**Iowa** - fingerprints not mentioned in statute but criminal history check specifically required

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) No felony conviction
- 3) No history of repeated acts of violence
- 4) Not addicted to the use of alcohol or any controlled substance
- 5) Issuing officer must reasonably determine the applicant does not constitute a danger to any person
- 6) Applicant must "reasonably justify" why he needs to carry a handgun

**Maine** - fingerprints may be required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) No felony conviction nor charges pending
- 3) Not been convicted of three or more misdemeanors in last five years
- 4) Not a drug user and not convicted in last five years of marijuana possession nor other drug crimes
- 5) Not convicted of possession of a firearm in a bar in last five years
- 5) Not been the subject of an investigation regarding domestic violence
- 6) Numerous other criteria which essentially mirror federal law

**Maryland** - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) No felony conviction
- 3) Has not exhibited a propensity for violence or instability
- 4) Not convicted of any offense involving possession, use or distribution of controlled substance
- 5) Not under legitimate medical direction nor an alcoholic
- 6) Applicant must have "good and substantial reason" to carry a handgun

**Nevada** - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law
- 3) Not convicted of a misdemeanor crime of violence in last three years
- 4) Not convicted of DUI nor committed for alcohol or drug treatment in last five years
- 5) Not convicted of a crime involving domestic violence nor subject to a dv restraining order

**North Dakota** - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law
- 3) Not convicted of a Class A misdemeanor crime of violence in last five years
- 4) Diagnosed and confined or committed as mentally ill or deficient in last three years
- 5) Non-resident application requires a LOCAL background check and approval from local law enforcement in the applicant's county (or city, borough, etc...) of residence

**Utah** - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law
- 3) No conviction for crime of violence nor offense involving moral turpitude or domestic violence
- 4) No conviction for offense involving use of alcohol or controlled substances
- 5) Has not been adjudicated mentally ill
- 6) Is not a danger to self or others as demonstrated by specific evidence

**Washington** - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) No felony convictions
- 3) No domestic violence misdemeanor convictions since July 1, 1993
- 4) Has been ordered to forfeit a firearm in the last year for, among other reasons, possessing a firearm while under the influence of alcohol or any drug
- 5) Has not been involuntarily committed for mental health treatment
- 6) No outstanding felony or misdemeanor arrest warrants
- 7) Not subject to provisions of protective order

\* **Federal law** (18 U.S.C. §922 (g)) prohibits possession of a firearm by any person:

- 1) who has been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year (generally includes any felony);
- 2) who is a fugitive from justice;
- 3) who is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance;
- 4) who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been committed to a mental institution;
- 5) who is an illegal alien or who has been admitted under a nonimmigrant visa;
- 6) who has been dishonorably discharged from the Armed Forces;
- 7) who has renounced his US citizenship; or
- 8) who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

THE  
FOLLOWING  
DOCUMENT(S)  
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ORIGINAL  
COPIES

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

5805 NORTH LAMAR BLVD • BOX 4087 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78773-0001

512/424-2000

[www.tx.dps.state.tx.us](http://www.tx.dps.state.tx.us)



THOMAS A. DAVIS, JR.  
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DAVID WEATHERSON  
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COMMISSION  
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ROBERT W. HOLY  
JAMES B. FRANCIS, JR.  
COMMISSIONERS

June 28, 2002

Delbert Smith  
Deputy Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Public Safety  
5700 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Re: Concealed Handgun Reciprocity

Dear Commissioner Smith:

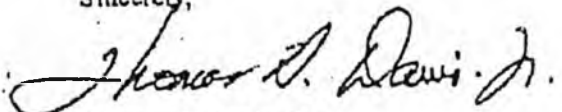
The Department recently received notice of "Senate Bill 242 am H" passed by the Alaska legislature. We have reviewed the bill to determine if it is now possible for Texas and Alaska to enter into a reciprocity agreement concerning concealed handgun licenses. S.B. 242 am H allows the state of Alaska to recognize a concealed handgun license from another state as long as the license holder has not had an application for a handgun permit rejected in Alaska or had a handgun permit revoked or suspended by Alaska. Texas Government Code Section 411.173(b)(2) allows the Department to enter into a reciprocity agreement if the other state recognizes a license issued in Texas.

After reviewing both statutes, we are trying to determine if Alaska will recognize all licenses issued by Texas. For instance, if Texas and Alaska were to enter into a reciprocity agreement, would Alaska recognize the following Texas concealed handgun licenses:

- 1) if the Texas licensee is currently eligible for a Texas license, but not an Alaska permit and has never applied for an Alaska permit;
- 2) if the Texas licensee is currently eligible for a Texas license, but not an Alaska permit and has had an application in Alaska rejected or had a permit revoked or suspended by Alaska;
- 3) if the Texas licensee is currently eligible for a Texas license and an Alaska permit, but applied for an Alaska permit when he was not eligible and was rejected, or had an Alaska permit revoked because he was not eligible at the time.

I will await your response before proceeding any further in regard to an agreement between Alaska and Texas. If you have any questions concerning the Texas concealed handgun statute, please contact Louis Beaty at 512-424-5836.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Davis, Jr.  
Director

TAD:lab

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
COURTESY • SERVICE • PROTECTION

\*\* TOTAL PAGE.03 \*\*



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION  
555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
(916)446-2455 voice ■ (916)448-7469 fax

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION  
BRIAN JUDY, ALASKA STATE LIAISON

March 25, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Weyhrauch:

On behalf of the over 24,000 Alaska members of the National Rifle Association, let me take this opportunity to urge your **support for House Bill 177**. HB 177 would help, in two ways, to ensure that other states recognize Alaska concealed handgun permits.

First, **House Bill 177** would repeal language which was put into the code last session as an amendment to a bill which was introduced to clarify the recognition of concealed handgun permits from other states. Senate Bill 242 (2002) was intended to simplify the recognition process by plainly recognizing all permits issued by other states. Supporters of the bill accepted an amendment late in the legislative process which has caused at least one state to refuse to recognize Alaska permits.

A concern was raised last year that Alaska residents who had a permit denied or revoked could travel to another state which issues permits to non-residents, obtain a permit and travel back to Alaska and carry under the out-of-state permit. Although supporters of SB 242 felt such was a highly unlikely scenario, an amendment was accepted to limit recognition of out-of-state permits to those held by individuals who had never had a permit denied or revoked in Alaska. It was thought that this restriction would have no impact on the recognition of permits.

Unfortunately, the language has led to a refusal by the State of Texas to recognize Alaska permits because Alaska's law imposes limits on the recognition of Texas permits while Texas would impose no such limitation on the recognition of Alaska permits. The likelihood that, in reality, a Texas permit would not be recognized due to the provision in question is just about as unlikely as an Alaskan traveling to the lower 48 to circumvent the Alaska permit law. However, the fact remains that the SB 242 amendment has created a barrier to the recognition of Alaska permits. The repeal of this language by **House Bill 177** will open the door to greater recognition of Alaska permits.

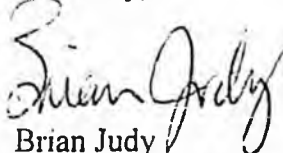
Attached you will find a copy of the letter from the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to Alaska DPS which lays out the problem. More importantly, I will also provide you with information on the issuance criteria of the eleven states which issue concealed handgun permits to non-residents. It is obvious, after reviewing this material, that should an Alaskan go to the trouble of traveling to another state, it is highly unlikely that person would be able to obtain an out-of-state permit. The issuance standards are generally at least as strict in each of the other states and fingerprint-based background checks are performed in virtually all cases.

With all due respect to those who raised questions last session, in reality, the evidence suggests that their concerns, while sincere, are not warranted. Further, since any person who can lawfully own and possess a firearm can legally carry *openly* in Alaska, an individual who had a permit denied or revoked in Alaska for a non-prohibiting offense could simply carry openly in Alaska without going to all the trouble and expense of obtaining another state's permit.

The second issue addressed by **House Bill 177** involves reciprocity agreements with other states. Although the State of Alaska now recognizes all other states' permits and is not required to enter into reciprocity agreements, some other states still require agreements for them to be able to recognize Alaska permits. HB 177 would require the Alaska Department of Safety to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states when it is necessary to benefit Alaska permit holders. Such agreements will only be required in rare cases and, thus, the cost to the Department in time and resources should be negligible.

It is for these reasons that the NRA requests your support for **House Bill 177**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Judy".

Brian Judy  
Alaska State Liaison

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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June 28, 2002

Delbert Smith  
Deputy Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Public Safety  
5700 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Re: Concealed Handgun Reciprocity

Dear Commissioner Smith.

The Department recently received notice of "Senate Bill 242 am H" passed by the Alaska legislature. We have reviewed the bill to determine if it is now possible for Texas and Alaska to enter into a reciprocity agreement concerning concealed handgun licenses. S.B. 242 am H allows the state of Alaska to recognize a concealed handgun license from another state as long as the license holder has not had an application for a handgun permit rejected in Alaska or had a handgun permit revoked or suspended by Alaska. Texas Government Code Section 411.173(b)(2) allows the Department to enter into a reciprocity agreement if the other state recognizes a license issued in Texas.

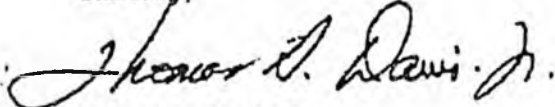
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- 1) if the Texas licensee is currently eligible for a Texas license, but not an Alaska permit and has never applied for an Alaska permit;
- 2) if the Texas licensee is currently eligible for a Texas license, but not an Alaska permit and has had an application in Alaska rejected or had a permit revoked or suspended by Alaska;
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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
COURTESY • SERVICE • PROTECTION

I will await your response before proceeding any further in regard to an agreement between Alaska and Texas. If you have any questions concerning the Texas concealed handgun statute, please contact Louis Beaty at 512-424-5836.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Davis, Jr.  
Director

TAD:lab

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\*\* TOTAL PAGE.03 \*\*

Aug-13-02

13 2002

# STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

Del Smith, Commissioner

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

### DIVISION OF ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Permits and Licensing Unit  
5700 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
Telephone (907) 289-0392  
Facsimile (907) 289-5609

Thomas A. Davis, Jr.  
Director  
Texas Department of Public Safety  
5805 North Lamar Blvd., Box 4087  
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

Dear Mr. Davis:

Our Department is in receipt of your letter dated June 28, 2002 revisiting the possibility of a reciprocal agreement in reference to concealed handgun permits. "Senate Bill 242 am H" did amend Alaska Statute 18.65.748 which now authorized the State of Alaska to recognize concealed handgun permits from all other States.

After reviewing your letter and the three proposed conditions, we have determined that we will recognize licenses issued by the State of Texas if a person holds a valid Texas permit and if the person has not had an application for a concealed handgun permit rejected in the State of Alaska because the person was unqualified under AS18.65.705 or had a concealed handgun permit revoked or suspended by this state.

We would not recognize a Texas permit under the other two circumstances you listed. Based on the language of our new law, no reciprocity agreement is needed.

Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions concerning the concealed handgun permit program.

Thomas Davis  
of TX conversation  
w/ ms. Grimes

Sincerely,



Lieutenant Julia P. Grimes  
Alaska State Troopers

JG:mbf

Cc: Representative Terry Keel

**PERMIT ISSUANCE CRITERIA  
FOR STATES WHICH ISSUE  
CONCEALED WEAPON PERMITS TO NON-RESIDENTS  
(As compared to Alaska's qualifications)**

*Alaska* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
  - 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law\*
  - 3) Not been convicted of two or more Class A misdemeanors within six years
  - 4) Not in last three years ordered to complete alcohol/substance abuse program
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*Arizona* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
- 2) No felony indictment or conviction
- 3) Does not suffer from mental illness nor has been adjudicated mentally incompetent
- 4) Fingerprints to FBI for national criminal history check

*Florida* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
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*Indiana* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) No felony conviction
- 3) Must be of good character and reputation
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- 5) Issuance to non-residents is limited to those who have a regular place of business or employment in Indiana

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- 2) No felony conviction nor charges pending
- 3) Not been convicted of three or more misdemeanors in last five years
- 4) Not a drug user and not convicted in last five years of marijuana possession nor other drug crimes
- 5) Not convicted of possession of a firearm in a bar in last five years
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- 6) Numerous other criteria which essentially mirror federal law

*Maryland* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) No felony conviction
- 3) Has not exhibited a propensity for violence or instability
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- 5) Not under legitimate medical direction nor an alcoholic
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- 1) 21 years of age
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- 3) Not convicted of a misdemeanor crime of violence in last three years
- 4) Not convicted of DUI nor committed for alcohol or drug treatment in last five years
- 5) Not convicted of a crime involving domestic violence nor subject to a dv restraining order

*North Dakota* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 18 years of age
- 2) Eligible to own/possess under federal law
- 3) Not convicted of a Class A misdemeanor crime of violence in last five years
- 4) Not been diagnosed and confined or committed as mentally ill or deficient in last three years
- 5) Non-resident application requires a LOCAL background check and approval from local law enforcement in the applicant's county (or city, borough, etc...) of residence

*Utah* - fingerprints required with application

- 1) 21 years of age
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- 6) Is not a danger to self or others as demonstrated by specific evidence

*Washington* - fingerprints required with application

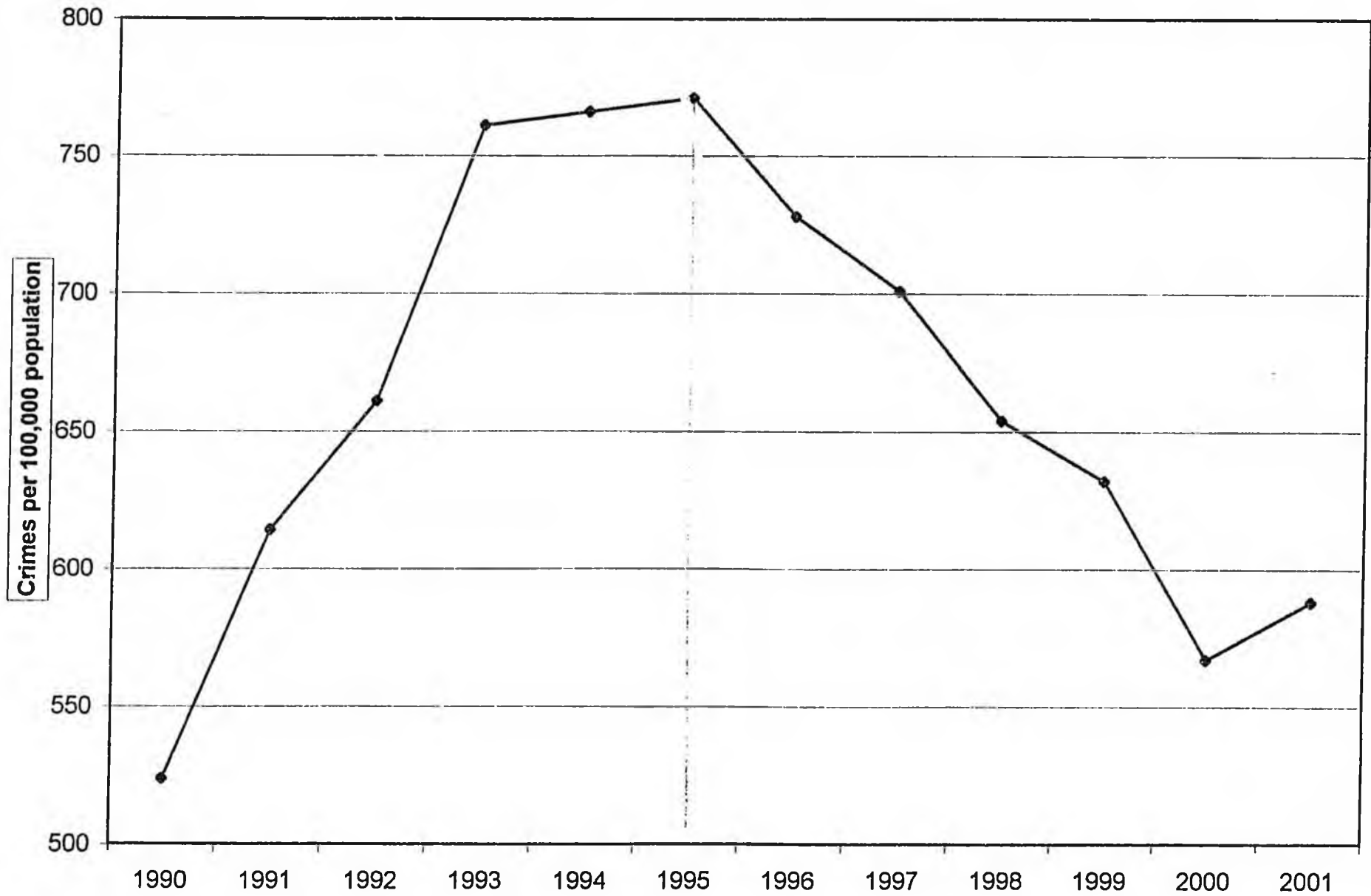
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- 2) No felony convictions
- 3) No domestic violence misdemeanor convictions since July 1, 1993
- 4) Has not been ordered to forfeit a firearm in the last year for, among other reasons, possessing a firearm while under the influence of alcohol or any drug
- 5) Has not been involuntarily committed for mental health treatment
- 6) No outstanding felony or misdemeanor arrest warrants
- 7) Not subject to provisions of protective order

\* *Federal law* (18 U.S.C. §922 (g)) prohibits possession of a firearm by any person:

- 1) who has been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year (generally includes any felony);
- 2) who is a fugitive from justice;
- 3) who is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance;
- 4) who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been committed to a mental institution;
- 5) who is an illegal alien or who has been admitted under a nonimmigrant visa;
- 6) who has been dishonorably discharged from the Armed Forces;
- 7) who has renounced his US citizenship; or
- 8) who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

# Alaska Crime Rates

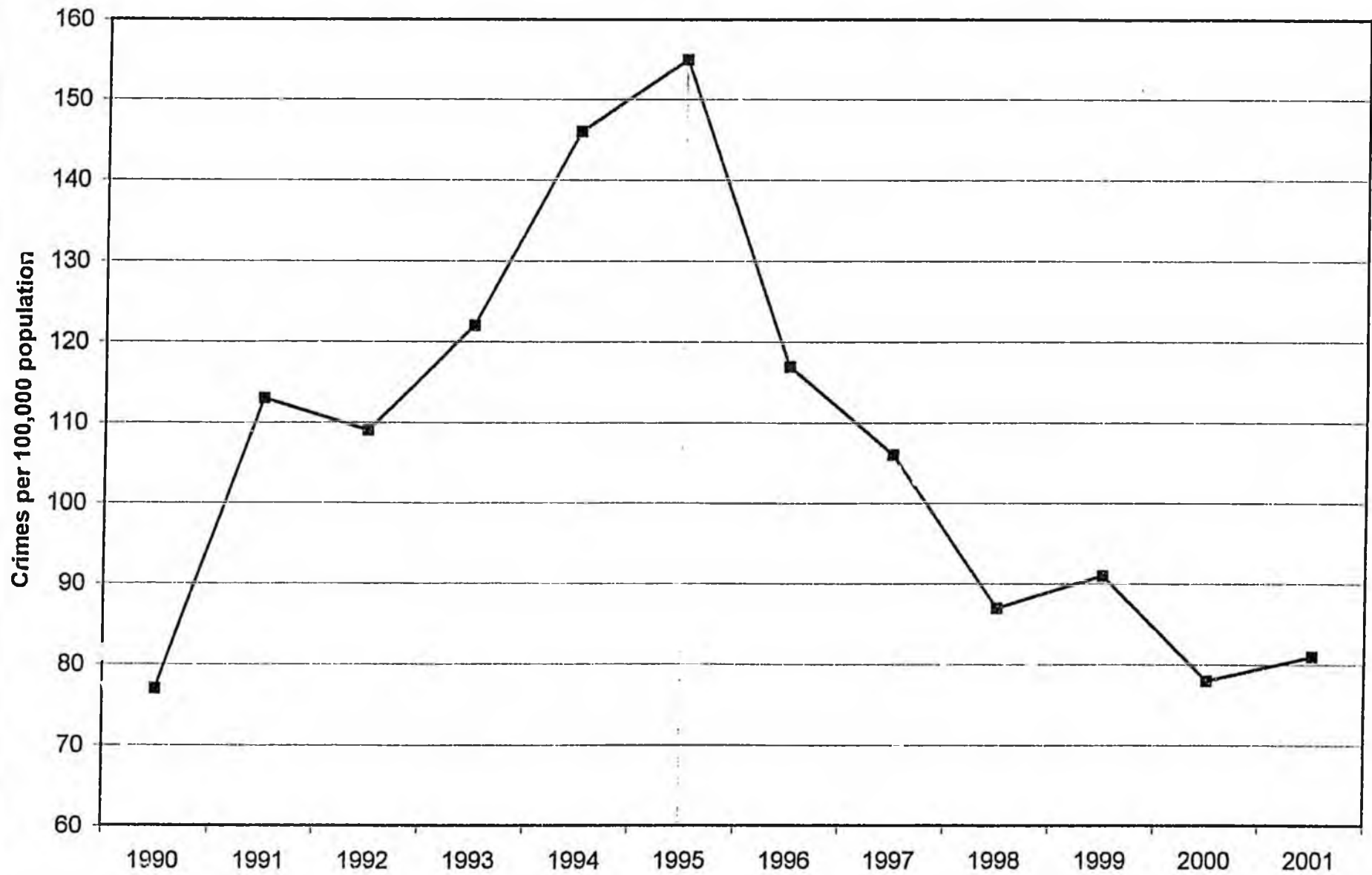
**Violent Crime**  
Sources: FBI and Bureau of Justice Statistics



# Alaska Crime Rates

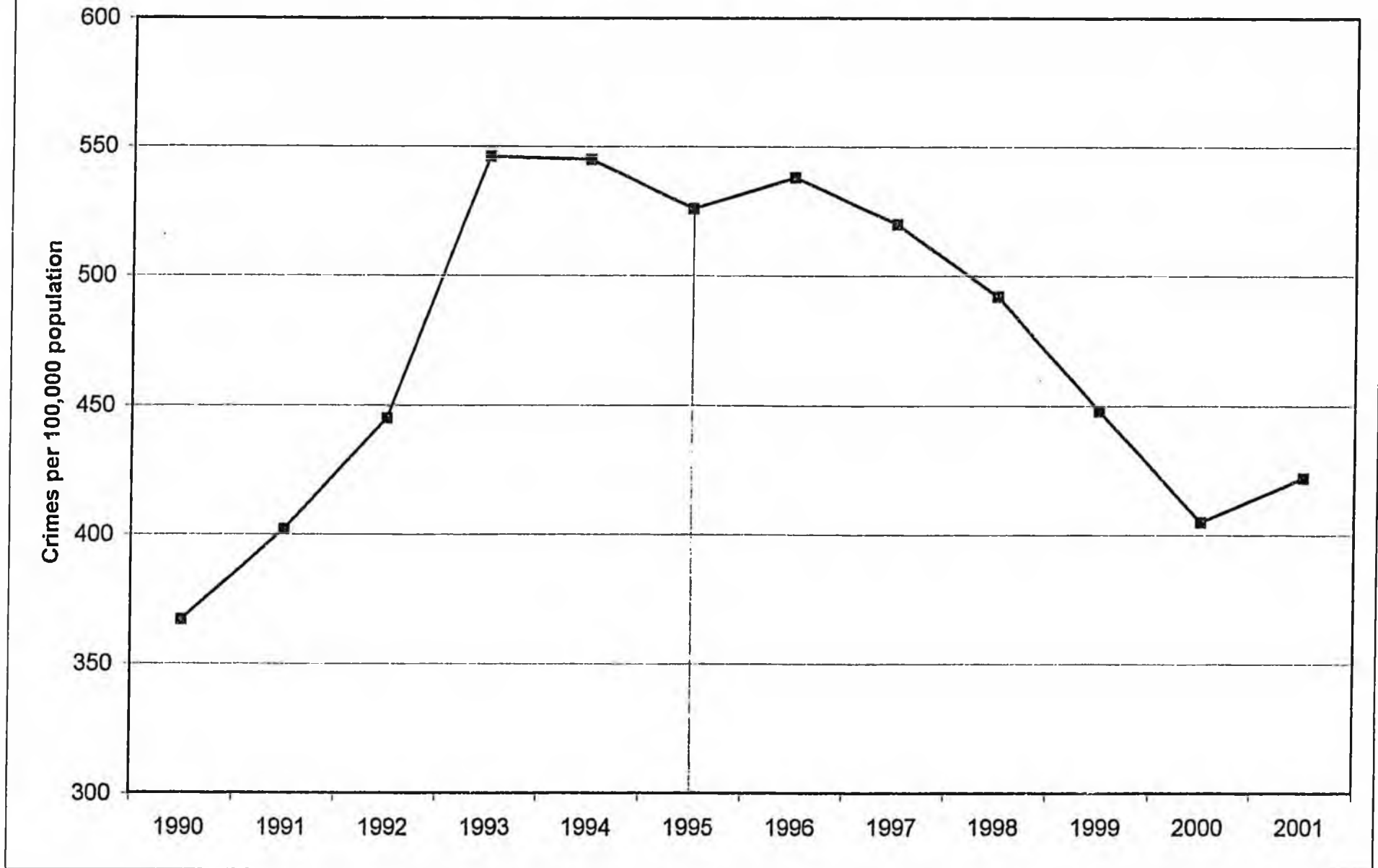
## Robbery

Sources: FBI and Bureau of Justice Statistics



# Alaska Crime Rates

**Aggravated Assault**  
Sources: FBI and Bureau of Justice Statistics



**Crime Rates by State: 2001**  
(Reported Offenses per 100,000 Population)

State	Total Crime Index	State Rank	Violent Crime	State Rank	Property Crime	State Rank
Alabama	4,319.4	33	438.6	29	3,880.8	32
→ Alaska	4,236.2	30	588.3	41	3,647.9	26
Arizona	6,077.4	50	540.3	36	5,537.1	50
Arkansas	4,134.2	26	452.8	30	3,681.4	28
California	3,902.9	22	617.0	43	3,286.0	18
Colorado	4,218.9	29	350.7	21	3,868.2	31
Connecticut	3,117.9	11	335.5	19	2,782.4	11
Delaware	4,052.8	23	611.4	42	3,441.4	22
District of Columbia	7,709.6	51	1,736.7	51	5,972.8	51
Florida	5,569.7	49	797.2	50	4,772.5	47
Georgia	4,646.3	37	497.0	33	4,149.3	39
Hawaii	5,386.1	48	254.6	9	5,131.5	49
Idaho	3,133.4	12	243.1	8	2,890.3	14
Illinois	4,097.8	25	636.9	44	3,460.8	24
Indiana	3,831.4	21	371.8	25	3,459.6	23
Iowa	3,301.2	15	269.1	13	3,032.1	15
Kansas	4,321.4	34	404.8	27	3,916.6	33
Kentucky	2,938.1	8	257.0	10	2,681.1	10
Louisiana	5,338.1	47	687.0	45	4,651.1	45
Maine	2,688.2	5	111.5	3	2,576.7	7
Maryland	4,866.8	40	783.0	49	4,083.8	37
Massachusetts	3,098.6	10	479.5	31	2,619.1	8
Michigan	4,081.5	24	554.7	38	3,526.8	25
Minnesota	3,583.7	18	264.4	12	3,319.3	19
Mississippi	4,185.2	28	350.1	20	3,835.1	30
Missouri	4,776.1	39	541.3	37	4,234.9	40
Montana	3,688.7	20	352.4	23	3,336.3	20
Nebraska	4,329.6	35	304.3	16	4,025.3	35
Nevada	4,266.0	32	586.8	40	3,679.2	27
New Hampshire	2,321.6	1	170.3	5	2,151.3	1
New Jersey	3,225.3	14	390.1	26	2,835.2	12
New Mexico	5,324.0	46	781.1	48	4,542.8	43
New York	2,925.1	7	516.0	35	2,409.1	5
North Carolina	4,938.0	41	494.3	32	4,443.7	42
North Dakota	2,417.7	3	79.6	1	2,338.1	4
Ohio	4,177.6	27	351.9	22	3,825.7	29
Oklahoma	4,607.0	36	512.3	34	4,094.7	38
Oregon	5,044.1	42	306.7	17	4,737.4	46
Pennsylvania	2,961.1	9	410.4	28	2,550.7	6
Rhode Island	3,684.9	19	309.6	18	3,375.3	21
South Carolina	4,752.7	38	720.3	46	4,032.4	36

State	Total Crime Index	State Rank	Violent Crime	State Rank	Property Crime	State Rank
South Dakota	2,332.0	2	154.8	4	2,177.2	2
Tennessee	5,152.8	45	745.3	47	4,407.5	41
Texas	5,152.7	44	572.8	39	4,579.9	44
Utah	4,243.0	31	234.1	7	4,008.9	34
→ Vermont	2,769.3	6	105.0	2	2,664.2	9
Virginia	3,178.3	13	291.3	15	2,886.9	13
Washington	5,151.9	43	355.0	24	4,796.8	48
West Virginia	2,559.5	4	279.4	14	2,280.1	3
Wisconsin	3,321.2	16	231.1	6	3,090.1	16
Wyoming	3,517.6	17	257.3	11	3,260.4	17

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports, <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>

Crime Ranks.xls

2001	Total violent crime	2001	Murder and non-neg. mansl.	2001	Forcible rape	2001	Robbery	2001	Aggravated assault
	crime								
District of Columbia	1,736.7	District of Columbia	40.6	1 Alaska	78.9	District of Columbia	689.6	District of Columbia	973.7
1 Florida	797.2	1 Louisiana	11.2	2 Delaware	52.8	1 Maryland	251.6	1 New Mexico	581.9
2 Maryland	783.0	2 Mississippi	9.9	3 Michigan	52.7	2 Nevada	234.2	2 Florida	650.9
3 New Mexico	781.1	3 Nevada	8.5	4 New Mexico	46.5	3 Florida	200.5	3 South Carolina	549.3
4 Tennessee	745.3	4 Alabama	8.5	5 South Dakota	46.4	4 Illinois	199.2	4 Tennessee	521.6
5 South Carolina	720.3	5 Maryland	8.3	6 Minnesota	45.0	5 New York	192.3	5 Maryland	496.1
6 Louisiana	687.0	6 Illinois	7.9	7 Colorado	43.7	6 California	187.1	6 Louisiana	468.3
7 Illinois	636.9	7 Arizona	7.5	8 Washington	43.4	7 Tennessee	178.0	7 Alaska	422.3
8 California	617.0	8 Tennessee	7.4	9 Oklahoma	42.9	8 Louisiana	176.1	8 Delaware	410.6
9 Delaware	611.4	9 Georgia	7.1	10 Nevada	41.9	9 Georgia	171.8	9 Illinois	398.3
10 Alaska	588.3	10 Indiana	6.8	11 Florida	40.5	10 Arizona	167.1	10 California	394.6
11 Nevada	586.8	11 Michigan	6.7	12 Mississippi	40.1	11 New Jersey	166.3	11 Oklahoma	384.6
12 Texas	572.8	12 Missouri	6.6	13 Utah	39.5	12 Texas	165.8	12 Missouri	372.1
13 Michigan	554.7	13 California	6.4	14 Rhode Island	39.3	13 North Carolina	162.5	13 Michigan	365.8
14 Missouri	541.3	14 South Carolina	6.3	15 Ohio	39.3	14 Ohio	151.2	14 Texas	362.5
15 Arizona	540.3	15 Texas	6.2	16 Texas	38.3	15 United States	148.5	15 Massachusetts	346.6
16 New York	516.0	16 North Carolina	6.2	17 Tennessee	38.3	15 New Mexico	147.3	16 Arizona	337.1
17 Oklahoma	512.3	17 Alaska	6.1	18 New Hampshire	38.4	16 Delaware	145.2	17 Arkansas	333.2
United States	504.4	United States	5.6	19 Kansas	35.1	17 Pennsylvania	142.4	United States	318.6
18 Georgia	497.0	18 Arkansas	5.5	20 South Carolina	34.0	18 Missouri	138.0	18 Montana	302.4
19 North Carolina	494.3	19 New Mexico	5.4	21 Oregon	33.8	19 South Carolina	130.7	19 Nevada	302.2
20 Massachusetts	479.5	20 Oklahoma	5.3	22 Hawaii	33.4	20 Michigan	129.5	20 North Carolina	300.2
21 Arkansas	452.8	21 Florida	5.3	23 Arkansas	33.1	21 Alabama	125.1	21 New York	300.0
22 Alabama	438.6	22 Pennsylvania	5.3	District of Columbia	32.9	22 Connecticut	122.1	22 Georgia	292.1
23 Pennsylvania	410.4	23 Virginia	5.1	24 Idaho	32.2	23 Indiana	117.3	23 Kansas	276.4
24 Kansas	404.8	24 New York	5.0	United States	31.8	24 Mississippi	115.3	24 Alabama	274.4
25 New Jersey	390.1	25 Kentucky	4.7	25 Illinois	31.5	25 Massachusetts	101.5	25 Pennsylvania	234.5
26 Indiana	371.8	26 Ohio	4.0	26 Louisiana	31.4	26 Washington	99.1	26 Colorado	222.9
27 Washington	355.0	27 New Jersey	4.0	27 Wyoming	30.9	27 Virginia	95.4	27 West Virginia	220.2
28 Montana	352.4	28 Montana	3.8	28 Alabama	30.7	28 Hawaii	93.3	28 Indiana	219.7
29 Ohio	351.9	29 Rhode Island	3.7	29 Massachusetts	29.1	29 Rhode Island	93.1	29 Nebraska	210.8
30 Colorado	350.7	30 Colorado	3.6	30 California	28.9	30 Kansas	89.9	30 Washington	209.6
31 Mississippi	350.1	31 Wisconsin	3.6	31 Arizona	28.6	31 Wisconsin	82.3	31 Wyoming	207.5
32 Connecticut	335.5	32 Kansas	3.4	32 Pennsylvania	28.2	32 Arkansas	81.0	32 Iowa	205.7
33 Rhode Island	309.6	33 Connecticut	3.1	33 Indiana	28.1	33 Alaska	81.0	33 New Jersey	204.7
34 Oregon	306.7	34 Washington	3.0	34 Kentucky	27.8	34 Kentucky	80.7	34 Connecticut	191.7
35 Nebraska	304.3	35 Utah	3.0	35 Maryland	27.0	35 Colorado	80.5	35 Oregon	191.3
36 Virginia	291.3	36 Delaware	2.9	36 Georgia	26.0	36 Oklahoma	79.4	36 Idaho	190.1
37 West Virginia	279.4	37 Hawaii	2.6	37 North Dakota	25.8	37 Oregon	79.2	37 Mississippi	184.8
38 Iowa	269.1	38 Nebraska	2.5	38 North Carolina	25.4	38 Minnesota	75.6	38 Rhode Island	173.5
39 Minnesota	264.4	39 Oregon	2.4	39 Maine	25.3	39 Nebraska	65.8	39 Virginia	166.2
40 Wyoming	257.3	40 Minnesota	2.4	40 Nebraska	25.2	40 Utah	52.7	40 Ohio	157.4
41 Kentucky	257.0	41 Massachusetts	2.3	41 Virginia	24.6	41 Iowa	39.5	41 Kentucky	143.8
42 Hawaii	254.6	42 Idaho	2.3	42 Missouri	24.6	42 West Virginia	39.2	42 Minnesota	141.4
43 Idaho	243.1	43 West Virginia	2.2	43 Iowa	22.2	43 New Hampshire	35.3	43 Utah	139.0
44 Utah	234.1	44 Wyoming	1.8	44 Wisconsin	21.1	44 Montana	25.4	44 Hawaii	125.3
45 Wisconsin	231.1	45 Iowa	1.7	45 Montana	20.8	45 Maine	20.5	45 Wisconsin	124.2
46 New Hampshire	170.3	46 Maine	1.4	46 Connecticut	18.7	46 Idaho	18.5	46 New Hampshire	97.2
47 South Dakota	154.8	47 New Hampshire	1.4	47 New York	18.7	47 Vermont	17.5	47 South Dakota	93.8
48 Maine	111.5	48 Vermont	1.1	48 West Virginia	17.8	48 Wyoming	17.0	48 Vermont	69.0
49 Vermont	105.0	49 North Dakota	1.1	49 Vermont	17.5	49 South Dakota	13.6	49 Maine	64.2
50 North Dakota	79.6	50 South Dakota	0.9	50 New Jersey	15.1	50 North Dakota	9.5	50 North Dakota	43.2

# Handgun Epidemic Lowering Plan (HELP) Network Firearm Injury Prevention State Status Report

## Vermont

Updated 2/6/2002

### Pediatric and Young Adult, and all Firearm Deaths and Rate per 100,000 Population (1999) <sup>2</sup>

	Population	Suicide		Homicide		Unintentional		Undetermined		Total Firearm <sup>3</sup>	
		Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Death	Rate	Death	Rate	Death	Rate
All ages	593,740	46	7.7	8	1.3	2	0.3	1	0.2	57	9.6
0-14	112,801	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
15-19	43,814	2	4.6	0	0.0	1	2.3	0	0.0	3	6.8
15-24	79,740	7	8.8	0	0.0	2	2.5	1	1.3	10	12.5
25-44	187,907	17	9.0	4	2.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	21	11.2
45-64	140,376	11	7.8	3	2.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	14	10.0
64+	72,916	11	15.1	1	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	16.5

### Vermont Compared With Other States (and D.C.)

		Ranking (1-highest, 51-lowest)
Rate of firearm deaths/100,000 pop. (1999)	9.6	34 of 51
Number of firearm deaths (1999)	57	48 of 51
Number of Federal Firearm Licensees (FFLs) (1999) <sup>4</sup>	595	47 of 51
Rate of FFLs per 100,000 pop. (1999)	100.2	5 of 51
Number of Federal Firearm Licensees (2001) <sup>4</sup>	570	47 of 51

#### For Available State Data, Contact:

Vermont Department of Health, Division of Health Surveillance: Public Health Statistics Unit  
<http://www.state.vt.us/health/healthsu.htm>

HELP Organizational Members Based in State: none

<sup>1</sup> Compiled by HELP Network; (773) 880-8122, email: [contact@helpnetwork.org](mailto:contact@helpnetwork.org). Children's Mem. Hosp., 2300 Children's Plaza, #88, Chicago, IL  
 State Status Reports can be viewed at [www.helpnetwork.org](http://www.helpnetwork.org)

<sup>2</sup> Data are from National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System

<sup>3</sup> Includes firearm deaths from all causes.

<sup>4</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). FFLs are those with a federal firearm license which is required to sell firearms.

# Handgun Epidemic Lowering Plan (HELP) Network Firearm Injury Prevention State Status Report

## Alaska

Updated 2/6/2002

### Pediatric and Young Adult, and all Firearm Deaths and Rate per 100,000 Population (1999) <sup>2</sup>

	Population	Suicide		Homicide		Unintentional		Undetermined		Total Firearm <sup>3</sup>	
		Deaths	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Death	Rate	Death	Rate	Death	Rate
All ages	619,500	55	8.9	27	4.4	3	0.5	2	0.3	88	14.2
0-14	163,094	1	0.6	5	3.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	3.7
15-19	56,192	10	17.8	4	7.1	1	1.8	2	3.6	17	30.3
15-24	104,654	17	16.2	6	5.7	1	1.0	2	1.9	26	24.8
25-44	178,632	20	11.2	13	7.3	2	1.1	0	0.0	35	19.6
45-64	138,370	10	7.2	1	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	8.7
64+	34,750	7	20.1	2	5.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	25.9

### Alaska Compared With Other States (and D.C.)

Ranking (1-highest, 51-lowest)

Rate of firearm deaths/100,000 pop. (1999)	14.2	12 of 51
Number of firearm deaths (1999)	88	43 of 51
Number of Federal Firearm Licensees (FFLs) (1999) <sup>4</sup>	1,274	33 of 51
Rate of FFLs per 100,000 pop. (1999)	205.6	1 of 51
Number of Federal Firearm Licensees (2001) <sup>4</sup>	1,211	35 of 51

#### For Available State Data, Contact:

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Bureau of Vital Statistics  
<http://health.hss.state.ak.us/>

HELP Organizational Members Based in State: none

<sup>1</sup> Compiled by HELP Network; (773) 880-8122, email: [contact@helpnetwork.org](mailto:contact@helpnetwork.org). Children's Mem. Hosp., 2300 Children's Plaza, #88, Chicago, IL. State Status Reports can be viewed at [www.helpnetwork.org](http://www.helpnetwork.org)

<sup>2</sup> Data are from National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System

<sup>3</sup> In 1999, the 1 death due to legal intervention (not shown separately) is included in Total Firearm deaths.

<sup>4</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). FFLs are those with a federal firearm license which is required to sell firearms.



30% of handguns are stored unlocked and loaded.

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NIJ

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## Vermont Firearm Deaths

Vermont Firearm Deaths  
Ages 0 to 19, 1995-2000  
All Races, Both Sexes

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
<b>Accidental</b>						
0-4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	0	1	0	0	1	1
Subtotal	0	1	0	0	1	1
<b>Suicide</b>						
0-4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-14	0	0	0	1	0	0
15-19	4	2	5	0	2	5
Subtotal	4	2	5	1	2	5
<b>Homicide</b>						
0-4	0	0	0	1	0	0
5-9	0	0	0	1	0	0
10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	0	0	0	0	1	0
Subtotal	0	0	0	2	1	0
<b>Undetermined/Other</b>						
0-4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-14	0	0	0	0	1	0
15-19	0	0	0	2	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0	2	1	0
<b>All Intents/TOTAL</b>						
0-4	0	0	0	1	0	0
5-9	0	0	0	1	0	0
10-14	0	0	0	1	0	0
15-19	4	2	5	0	2	5
Subtotal	4	2	5	4	2	5



	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44
15-19	4	3	5	2	4	6	
TOTAL	4	3	5	5	5	6	

NOTE: Rates based on 20 or fewer deaths may be unstable. Use with caution.  
 ABOUT 1999-2000 DATA: The coding of mortality data changed significantly in 1999 from ICD-9 to ICD-10, so you may not be able to compare number of deaths and death rates from 1998 and before with data from 1999 and after. Though there were no apparent changes in the coding of firearm deaths, the National Center for Health Statistics does not recommend combining 1999-2000 data with previous years to obtain average annual numbers of death and death rates.  
 TABLE: Statistics compiled by *Common Sense about Kids and Guns* using WISQARS. WISQARS is produced by the Office of Statistics and Programming, NCIPC, CDC.  
 DATA SOURCE: NCHS National Vital Statistics System.

[Return to Vermont page](#)

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**Common Sense**  
 ABOUT KIDS AND GUNS

*the child you save may be your own.*

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The HELP Network



HELP Network  
(773) 880-8122  
contact@helpnetwork.org

Children's Memorial Hospita  
2300 Children's Plaza,  
Box #88,  
Chicago, IL 60614

www.helpnetwork.org

## Legislative Update for the State of Alaska

### State Gun Laws<sup>1</sup>

- Anti-Trafficking: Is there a one-handgun-per-month limit on gun sales? no
- Assault Weapons: Are there limitations on assault weapons and magazines? no
- Attorney General Regulations: May Attorney General regulate guns? yes
- Background Check at State Level: Do state police perform a background check in addition to federal NICS check? no
- Ballistic Fingerprinting: Must handguns be ballistic fingerprinted prior to sale? no
- CCW Limits: May police limit carrying concealed handguns? no
- Child Access Prevention -CAP: Are gun owners held accountable for leaving guns accessible to kids? no
- Child-Safety Locks: Must locking devices be sold with guns? no
- Gun Manufacturer Accountability: Do cities have authority to hold gun makers legally liable? no
- Gun Show Checks: Are background checks required at gun shows? no
- Juvenile Possession: Are minors restricted from possessing guns? yes
- Juvenile Sale: Is it illegal to sell guns to kids? yes
- Licensing: Is a license/permit required to buy handguns? no
- Local Gun Laws -Preemption: May cities enact laws stronger than the state's? partial
- Record Keeping: May police maintain gun sale records? no
- Registration: Are all guns registered with law enforcement? no
- Safety Standards: are there consumer safety standards on guns? no
- Safety Training: Is safety training required for handgun buyers? no
- Saturday Night Specials: Are there limitations on "junk" handguns? no
- School Zones: Is it illegal to have a gun in or around schools? yes
- Secondary Sales: Are background checks required on "private" gun sales? no
- Waiting Period: Is there a waiting period on gun sales? no

<sup>1</sup> Source: Brady Campaign - www.bradycampaign.org as of February 2002

The HELP Network



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## Legislative Update for the State of Vermont

### State Gun Laws<sup>1</sup>

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Assault Weapons: Are there limitations on assault weapons and magazines?	no
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Gun Manufacturer Accountability: Do cities have authority to hold gun makers legally liable?	yes
Gun Show Checks: Are background checks required at gun shows?	no
Juvenile Possession: Are minors restricted from possessing guns?	partial
Juvenile Sale: Is it illegal to sell guns to kids?	partial
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Waiting Period: Is there a waiting period on gun sales?	no

<sup>1</sup> Source: Brady Campaign - www.bradycampaign.org as of February 2002

HB

183



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

REPRESENTATIVE BRUCE WEYHRAUCH  
HOUSE DISTRICT 4



ALASKA  
STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA  
99801-1182

(907) 465-3744  
FAX (907) 465-2273

HB 183

## PERS STATUS FOR JUVENILE OFFICERS

### Sponsor Statement

Presently, Alaska law states that peace officers and firefighters are entitled to normal retirement benefit after 20 years of service. HB 183 adds "juvenile officers" to AS 39.35.370(a)(2) as employees eligible to participate in the 20-year retirement system. The term "juvenile officer" is defined to mean, "a youth counselor, unit leader, or a superintendent in a juvenile detention or juvenile correctional facility." Generally speaking, these juvenile officers are the employees who work with juveniles inside a correctional facility. They have the same or very similar training, and authority to restrain and arrest individuals as other peace officers.

Juveniles who are in a correctional facility are there for reasons such as commission of a serious crime, mental health issues, substance abuse problems, or a combination of all of the above. Such juveniles demand the highest level of care and rehabilitation efforts, while at the same time, presenting the highest level of risk to juvenile officers.

Presently, probation officers and other employees working with juveniles outside a correctional facility qualify for a 20-year retirement. As presently written, the statutes create an uneven situation where a probation officer working outside a correctional facility could arrest and deliver a juvenile to a correctional facility. The officer outside the facility would be entitled to a 20-year retirement while the officers inside the facility are not. Adult correctional officers also qualify for a 20-year retirement.

Providing a 20-year retirement system for juvenile officers is fair since these employees perform the same or very similar work duties as other employees charged with preserving public safety. It also creates an incentive for existing juvenile officers to remain in their positions and will attract qualified applicants for new positions.

Contact: Linda Sylvester  
465-3744

Released: March 10, 2003

# ALASKA JUVENILE CORRECTINAL OFFICER ASSOCIATION

## POSITION PAPER

It is the position of the Association that Juvenile Correctional Officers, (i.e., Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents) be included as members in the Peace Officers Retirement System.

The Association requests that legislation be introduced granting Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents status as peace officers under the public employees retirement system. This proposed legislation should allow these job classes currently employed, the ability to claim prior years of service as peace officers for the purpose of credited service. Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents claiming this retroactive service should accrue an indebtedness to the retirement system equal to the difference between their actual employee contribution and the contribution, which they would have made at the peace officer rate.

For most state employees the Public Employee Retirement System provides for normal retirement at age 55 or 30 years service if hired before July 1, 1986 and at age 60 or 30 years service if hired after June 30, 1986.

Employees defined as peace officers are eligible to retire with normal benefits after 20 years of service without regard to age. PERS regulations and Title 39 define 'peace officer' as an employee of a police agency or other governmental organization who has primary responsibility of " the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the fish and game, penal, traffic or highway laws of the state...." This special retirement plan for peace officers was enacted in 1960 in recognition of the dangers and stress related to the performance of peace officer duties and the need for persons performing peace officer functions to be physically and mentally fit. Peace officers are encouraged to retire before the inevitable loss of the physical and emotional stamina required for peak performance.

Over the last few years, eligibility for the 20-year peace officer retirement plan has been expanded to include other job classifications. Fire fighters, fire chiefs, special officers commissioned by the state troopers, correctional officers, correctional superintendents, and probation officers have now been included in addition to the original group of police officers, state troopers, and police chiefs.

Correctional officers and correctional superintendents in the adult system became the first justice system employees to participate as 'peace officers' who were not in the traditional law enforcement category. Failure to include Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents employed in juvenile correctional institutions in the peace officers retirement system has resulted in glaring inequities between similar job classifications in the justice system.

The job classifications of law enforcement powers, danger, stress, and the need for physical and emotional fitness which justified inclusion of adult correctional officers and correctional superintendents are present to an equal or greater degree with Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents. Youth counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents employed at state juvenile correctional institutions have many of the same job characteristics as those personnel employed in the adult system. The above mentioned personnel within the juvenile system are required to physically restrain out of control juveniles, transport juvenile offenders, and apprehend juveniles who have absconded from the institution. Juveniles, because of their impulsive nature are more likely than adults to be aggressive and assaultive to staff.

The disparate treatment of these job classes with respect to 20-year retirement demoralizes the ineligible employees and reduces the benefits to the employing agency of an established progressive system. There is little incentive for an employee of the juvenile correctional system to seek professional advancement within. To work in youth corrections rather than in the adult correctional system deprives the employee of the security of a 20-year retirement option. Employees are drawn down the career ladder rather than up.

An agency whose employees are eligible for 20-year peace officer retirement potentially accrues a number of organizational benefits. Recruitment and retention of a skilled, satisfied and stable work force can contribute greatly to public service goals. Such an agency can more easily attract the most qualified workers.

Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents have become the entry point for persons into state service and the training ground for employees seeking greater benefits available in the adult correctional system or the probation officer job classification series.

In summary, the Association respectfully requests the introduction of legislation to include Youth Counselors, Unit Leaders, and Youth Center Superintendents as members of the Peace Officers Retirement System.

Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: House Bill 183  
 () Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Administration  
 Title Retirement contributions under PERS BRU Centralized Administrative Services  
 for juvenile detention and correctional institution employees. Component Retirement and Benefits  
 Sponsor Representative Weyrauch  
 Requester House State Affairs Component No. 64

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**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)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0  
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)  
 This legislation converts the retirement status of juvenile detention employees and juvenile correctional institution employees from "thirty years and out" to "twenty years and out." The bill would allow affected employees to claim this status retroactive to their date of hire into these positions; in return, the employee is indebted to the system based on (1) the contributions to the system the employee would have made if the service had counted as twenty and out service; less (2) the contributions the employee actually made; (3) plus interest on that difference. This is not equal to the full actuarial cost of that service. Therefore, this legislation creates both a "past service liability" for service retroactively claimed, and a future actuarial liability for the State of Alaska because 20 and out service is more costly than 30 and out service. 240 employees are affected by this legislation. Our actuarial consultant has estimated the total cost (the net present value of fully projected benefits) of this legislation to be \$8.5 million, producing an increase in the state's contribution rate of 0.16% and an annual cost to the State of \$1,050.0.

Prepared by: Guy Bell, Director Phone 465-4471  
 Division: Retirement and Benefits Date/Time March 31, 2003  
 Approved by: Mike Miller, Commissioner Date March 31, 2003  
 Agency: Department of Administration

MAR 31 2003

4/1

***ALASKA JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION***

Alaska Statutes

Sec. ~~47.12.270~~ Youth counselors.

The department may employ youth counselors. Youth counselors shall exercise the duties of probation officers and shall prepare preliminary investigations for the information of the court. They shall also carry out other duties in the care and treatment of minors that are consistent with the intent of this chapter. Youth counselors have the powers of a peace officer with respect to the service of process, the making of arrests of minors who violate state or municipal law, and the execution of orders of the court relating to juveniles, and shall assist and advise the courts in the furtherance of the welfare and control of minors under the court's jurisdiction.

**The "Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association" asks for your full support for HB 183, full Peace Officers retirement bill for our job class.**

Thank you,

*The Statewide Membership*

Local Contact  
Greg Roth Co-Chair  
Juneau, Alaska  
907-780-8658

## Support for HB 183, Twenty Year Retirement for Youth Counselors

- There is a long standing inequity in the Public Employees Retirement System. Currently adult correctional officers and superintendents, adult probation officers, and juvenile probation officers are all eligible for 20 year peace officer retirement. Despite being identified peace officers in Alaska Statute 47.12.270 and performing job duties substantially similar to their adult corrections counterparts, youth counselors are excluded from this retirement system.
- The job title "Youth Counselor" is misleading. Youth counselors perform all of the security, custody, and control functions in juvenile detention and correctional facilities. In addition to these functions, youth counselors are responsible for rehabilitation and treatment services for delinquent youth.
- In an Alaska Court of Appeals ruling regarding a youth convicted and sentenced for assaulting a youth counselor in an attempt to escape from McLaughlin Youth Center, the Court states that "the "youth counselors" employed by the Department of Health and Social Services at juvenile institutions like McLaughlin are expected to perform duties that are analogous to the duties entrusted to corrections officers at adult institutions." (WILSON, Jr. v. STATE of Alaska. Oct.23, 1998)
- Youth Counselors are required to complete a minimum of 160 hours of training in their first year of employment. Although there is no formal training "academy" for DJJ employees, youth counselor training includes security procedures, supervision of juveniles, use of force regulations and tactics, suicide precautions, fire and emergency procedures, first aid/CPR, and counseling skills. This training is consistent with standards established by the American Correctional Association.
- Like adult correctional officers, youth counselors are responsible for supervising, controlling, and caring for offenders whose behavior has necessitated secure confinement. Additionally, the youthfulness and immaturity of juvenile offenders often results in a level of impulsive behavior beyond that generally seen in adult populations.
- Including youth counselors, unit leaders, and superintendents in the peace officer retirement system would be consistent with the benefits afforded similar job classes in adult corrections and juvenile justice, and would correct an existing inequity in the Public Employees Retirement System.

Valorie Lee Miller  
1250 Beaver Way  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615  
(907)486-5113

MAR 31 2003

March 22, 2003

Bruce Weyhrauch  
House State of Affairs Committee  
State Capital, Room #102  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Mr. Bruce Weyhrauch,

This letter is in support of HB 138 regarding 20 Year Retirement for Youth Counselors. The following is an edited reprint of my testimony previously given before the House Finance Committee for the same subject matter, but under HB 148 which has been re-introduced as HB 138:

I am Valorie Miller, Juvenile Probation Officer (JPO) in Kodiak. I began working for the State of Alaska in 1976 as a Youth Counselor (YC) I at McLaughlin Youth Center. I worked in the girl's detention unit, and boy's and girl's treatment units until 1988.

As a Youth Counselor I, II, III and Unit Leader, I experienced verbal abuse, was spat upon and physically assaulted. Incarcerated youth sometimes felt they had nothing to loose, and were often impulsive, unpredictable, disturbed/angry and dangerous. That dynamic required intense alertness to duty and safety concerns making this work exhausting. Youth Counselors are the front-line workers between the youth and the public without the armored or electronic barriers for protection that exist in the adult system. Interpersonal skills that develop with experience and maturity balance the need to win the respect, trust and cooperation of the youth.

The level of stress increased with the level of supervisory responsibility and liability. The safety of staff, youth and the public at large, was of utmost importance and a consideration on a moment-to-moment basis. I remember feeling a sense of relief, when I transferred to the probation officer position. I felt a distinct difference in the type of anxiety associated with the duties and responsibilities as compared to that of an institutional worker. Some of these differences are:

YC's work with youth who have the highest risk factor, and who are either a danger to themselves and /or others, and can not be placed in a lesser restrictive environment.

YC's usually have no rest or relief period from the time they come to work until the time they go home, and are even required to spend meal-times with the youth. They work within the same walls day after day with little to no opportunity to leave.

YC's, in times of emergency, are responsible for the safety of many youth, and for the other staff on the unit. They must remain calm and work through a crisis situation no matter how hostile, or out of control the youth become. JPO's in emergency situations, tend to be more concerned with their own safety and/or perhaps other staff and may have to deal with a small number of youth and those immediately in the surrounding vicinity in the community.

YC's ARE the guard/escort, and often have to sit with a youth for long periods of time until the youth regains control. JPO's often have the option to hire a guard to sit with them, transport and/or escort youth. Also, they can ask for law enforcement back up when confronting a youth.

There is a disparity within the Division of Juvenile Justice job classifications. YC's deserve more equitable incentive and recognition to want to remain at their posts in the institutions, rather than be attracted to better benefits offered as adult correction officers and adult or juvenile probation officers. To promote and ensure qualified and experienced workers, this inequity must be rectified.

Your assistance in getting HB 138 before the committee for a vote would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Valorie L. Miller". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Valorie L. Miller

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

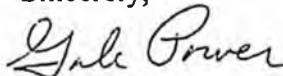
MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

Just a short note to let you know that I appreciate your sponsorship and support of House Bill 183, that places Youth Counselors into the Peace Officer's Retirement System. I am employed by the Bethel Youth Facility as a school teacher, and realize that passage of this piece of legislation would finally recognize the nature of the work youth counselors perform with serious juvenile offenders. HB 183 also brings fairness between Youth Counselors and the other employees within the Division of Juvenile Justice, such as Juvenile Probation Officers who are currently in the 20-year system.

Again, thank you for your recognition of Youth Counselors and the work that they do in our youth facilities across the state.

Sincerely,



Gale Power

MAR 31 2003

March 26, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is David Matthews and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the Bethel Youth Facility. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
David Matthews

March 26, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

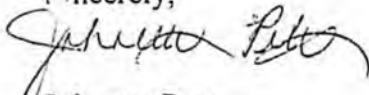
My name is Johnette Pete and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor at the Bethel Youth Facility. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Johnette Pete

MAR 31 2003

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

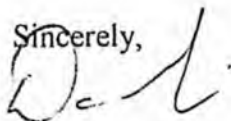
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for sponsoring House Bill 183 that places the Youth Counselor series employees of the Division of Juvenile Justice into the Peace Officers Retirement System.

I work as a Youth Counselor in Bethel, Alaska and know first hand the nature of the work performed in the division's facilities. A 20-year retirement benefit will go a long way to retain good employees and improve staff morale.

In addition to being a youth facility employee, I am also a member of the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA), which has been formed to rally support for HB 183. With your leadership in the House on this issue, AJCOA feels confident that HB 183 will have widespread support. Association members will assist in any way possible to ensure the passage of this legislation.

Please feel free to contact me or any other association member regarding HB 183. Thank you again for your support of the Youth Counselor series employees in our youth facilities across the state.

Sincerely,



Darrel Garrison

MAR 3 1 2003

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

Just a short note to let you know that I appreciate your sponsorship and support of House Bill 183, that places Youth Counselors into the Peace Officer's Retirement System. I am employed by the Bethel Youth Facility as a school teacher, and realize that passage of this piece of legislation would finally recognize the nature of the work youth counselors perform with serious juvenile offenders. HB 183 also brings fairness between Youth Counselors and the other employees within the Division of Juvenile Justice, such as Juvenile Probation Officers who are currently in the 20-year system.

Again, thank you for your recognition of Youth Counselors and the work that they do in our youth facilities across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheri Chartier".

Cheri Chartier

MAR 3 1 2003

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,


I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for sponsoring House Bill 183 that places the Youth Counselor series employees of the Division of Juvenile Justice into the Peace Officers Retirement System.

I work as a Youth Counselor in Bethel, Alaska and know first hand the nature of the work performed in the division's facilities. A 20-year retirement benefit will go a long way to retain good employees and improve staff morale.

In addition to being a youth facility employee, I am also a member of the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA), which has been formed to rally support for HB 183. With your leadership in the House on this issue, AJCOA feels confident that HB 183 will have widespread support. Association members will assist in any way possible to ensure the passage of this legislation.

Please feel free to contact me or any other association member regarding HB 183. Thank you again for your support of the Youth Counselor series employees in our youth facilities across the state.

Sincerely,

  
Patricia Zulkosky

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

Thank you very much for your sponsorship of House Bill 183 that places Youth Counselor series employees in the Peace Officer's Retirement System. I am employed by the Division of Juvenile Justice as a Youth Counselor, and have recently joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) to show my support for HB 183.

I have worked for six years in this job class and know full well that entry into a 20-year retirement plan, like most others in my division, will have a profound effect on employee morale and longevity across the state. This includes the new Youth Counselors that will be hired in the future

Please let me know what I can do through AJCOA to help support the passage of HB 183.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Warzewick", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Warzewick

MAR 31 2003

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Jerry Ivon  
P.O. Box 2026  
Bethel Alaska 99559

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Jerry Ivon and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice in the Bethel Youth Facility as a Youth Counselor II. I appreciate your sponsorship of House Bill 183 (20-year retirement for Youth Counselors) and hope that it garners support for passage this legislative session and gets placed before the Governor for his signature. I am confident that HB 183 will benefit the Youth Counselor job class by bringing parity and fairness with the division's other employee classes.

Thank you very much for your leadership and support for 20-year retirement for Youth Counselors in our state's youth facilities.

Sincerely,

  
Jerry Ivon

Rep. Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

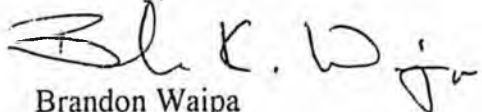
MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

Just a short note to let you know that I appreciate your sponsorship and support of House Bill 183, that places Youth Counselors into the Peace Officer's Retirement System. I am employed by the Bethel Youth Facility as a Youth Counselor, and realize that passage of this piece of legislation would finally recognize the nature of the work youth counselors perform with serious juvenile offenders. HB 183 also brings fairness between Youth Counselors and the other employees within the Division of Juvenile Justice, such as Juvenile Probation Officers who are currently in the 20-year system.

Again, thank you for your recognition of Youth Counselors and the work that they do in our youth facilities across the state.

Sincerely,

  
Brandon Waipa

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

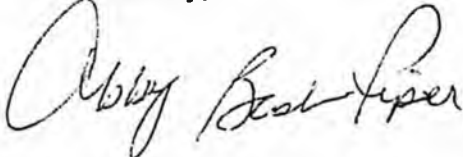
My name is Abby Baskin-Piper and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employees because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abby Baskin-Piper". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Abby Baskin-Piper

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Duane Hunte and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duane Hunte', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Duane Hunte

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

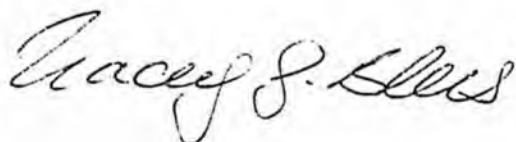
My name is Tracey Bles and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Tracey Bles

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Brandon Johnson and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor I at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

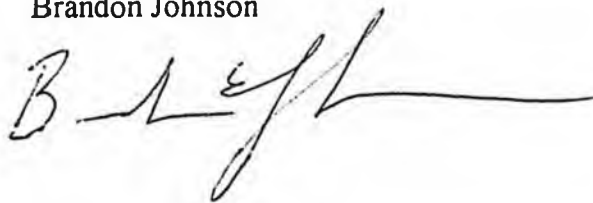
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As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

Brandon Johnson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

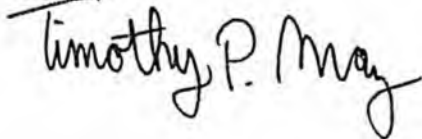
My name is Timothy Mraz and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

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Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy P. Mraz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "R".

Timothy Mraz

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

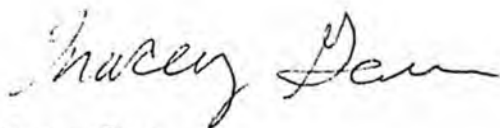
My name is Tracey Garn and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

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Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Tracey Garn

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

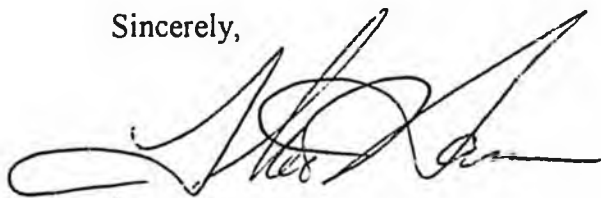
My name is Theodore Harris and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theodore Harris', written in a cursive style.

Theodore Harris

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

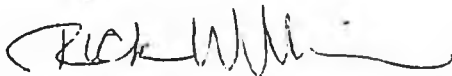
My name is Rick Williams and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

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Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Williams". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rick Williams

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Heath McLeod and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

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Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heath McLeod, VC II".

Heath McLeod

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Nan Truitt and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

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Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
Nan Truitt

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

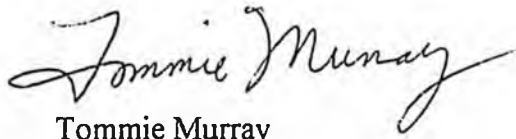
My name is Tommie Murray and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

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As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tommie Murray". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tommie Murray

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

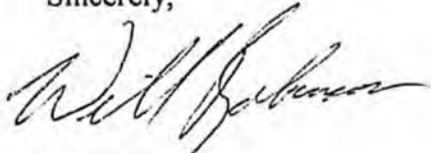
My name is Willie Robinson and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Willie Robinson

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Kathy Shankel and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA, ) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Kathy Shankel

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Jeffrey Burger and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Burger

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Robert Kehrer and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Kehrer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Kehrer

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

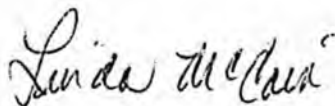
My name is Linda McCain and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Linda McCain

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Shawn Tollefsen and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Shawn Tollefsen", followed by a horizontal line.

Shawn Tollefsen

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Ralph Champion and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
Ralph Champion

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

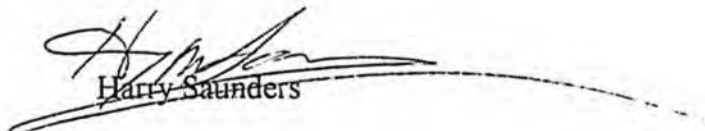
My name is Harry Saunders and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
Harry Saunders

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

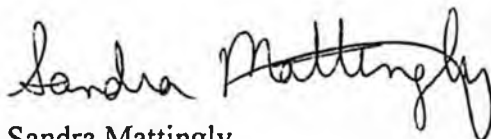
My name is Sandra Mattingly and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Mattingly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sandra Mattingly

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

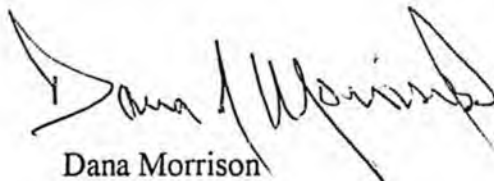
My name is Dana Morrison and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Dana Morrison

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,


My name is Willard Vance, Jr and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
Willard Vance, Jr.

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,


My name is Chairi Sims and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chairi Sims". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Chairi Sims

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

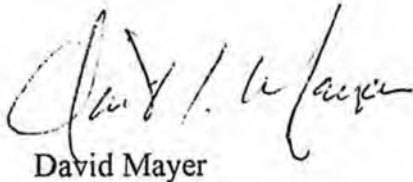
My name is David Mayer and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Mayer".

David Mayer

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

March 20, 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

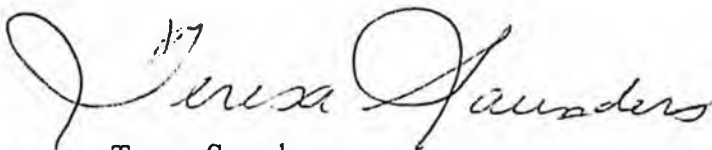
My name is Teresa Saunders and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teresa Saunders". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Teresa Saunders

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

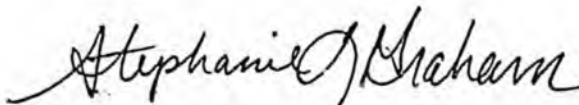
My name is Stephanie Graham and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

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As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Graham

March 20, 2003

March 21 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Grant Klotz and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Grant Klotz

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Jacquelin Gold and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor I at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
Jacquelin Gold

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Daniel Dickey and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Dickey', written in a cursive style.

Daniel Dickey

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Timothy Beall and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Beall". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Timothy Beall

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1183

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

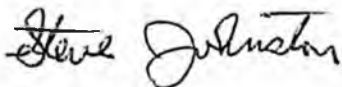
My name is Steven Johnston and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Unit Leader at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Steven Johnston

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

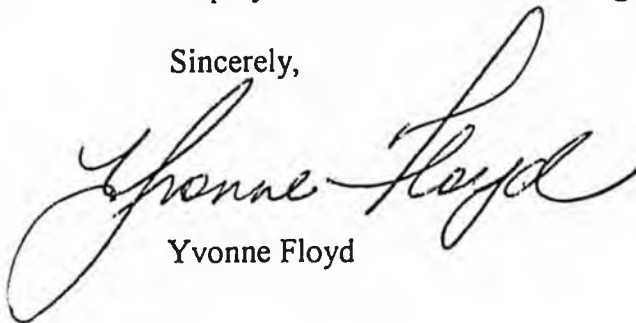
My name is Yvonne Floyd and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yvonne Floyd". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Yvonne Floyd

March 20, 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

MAR 31 2003

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Theodore Greene and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor III at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,



Theodore Greene

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Deborah Pickel and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deborah Pickel', written in a cursive style.

Deborah Pickel

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Robert Hartsock and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employees because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Hartsock", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Hartsock

March 20, 2003

MAR 31 2003

Representative Bruce Weyhrauch  
State Capitol, Room #102  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Weyhrauch,

My name is Joseph Williams and I work for the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as a Youth Counselor II at the McLaughlin Youth Center. I joined the Alaska Juvenile Correctional Officers Association (AJCOA) recently to support the passage of the Youth Counselor 20-year retirement legislation, HB 183.

Youth Counselors deserve a 20-year package more than any other group of employee because of the inequity that exists within our own division. You probably know that most all other employees in DJJ are in the Peace Officers Retirement System already and have been for sometime.

As the Chair, I know that you can make HB 183 move to a hearing in the State Affairs Committee. I would certainly support such an action as a Youth Counselor and an AJCOA member. I know that HB 183 will have support in both the House and the Senate when they see it.

Please make HB 183 move for the Youth Counselors as a sign of support for a group of employees who have been working a long time toward fairness and equity.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph Williams