



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: <http://www.akrepublicans.org>

Sponsor: Senator Con Bunde
Current Version: SB 316
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Date: March 17, 2004

Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 316

Short Title: Seat Belt Violation as Primary Offense

Summary:

- Changes the current seat belt law from a secondary offense to a primary offense.
- Changes the enforcement measures of our current seat belt law to allow police officers and state troopers to pull over individuals who are not wearing their seat belt.
- Does not change or affect the fact that drivers and passengers are currently required by state law to wear a seat belt while in a motor vehicle.

Benefits:

- Primary seat belt laws have been proven to save lives and reduce injuries related to motor vehicle crashes.
- The State of Alaska will collect close to \$4 million in Federal highway funding contingent on compliance with a primary seat belt law.
- Enacting a primary seat belt law will save the State of Alaska hundreds of thousands of dollars in emergency, rehabilitative and insurance costs annually.

Background:

Twenty other states and the District of Columbia have enacted primary seat belt laws. Department of Public Safety Commissioner William Tandeske, the chiefs of police in Fairbanks and Anchorage, the State of Alaska and U.S. Department of Transportation, and many public safety groups locally and nationally are in full support of a primary seat belt law.