

# ALASKA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Contact:**

Interim Address:

**3340 Badger Road**  
**North Pole, AK 99705**  
(907)-488-5725  
Fax# (907)-488-4271

**Session**

(907)-465-3719  
FAX# (907)-465-3258  
**State Capitol**  
**Room 204**

## REPRESENTATIVE JOHN COGHILL

*HB 314 "No Retreat Defense"*

### *SPONSOR STATEMENT*

This legislation came to my attention when Florida passed similar legislation last year, but was brought closer to home when a man in Wasilla was shot after being chased out of his own home by an intruder.

Unlike Florida, Alaska law allows a person to use deadly force in defense of death, serious physical injury, kidnapping, sexual assault or robbery in their home. HB 314 broadens the law to include any place a person has a right to be.

If a person fears for their life or is under attack, they should be able to stand their ground whether in their home, or the parking lot of the local grocery store.

Sexual assault is no longer about promiscuity, but physical mangling, kidnapping, rape and, too often, death. HB 314 allows a person to use deadly force when protecting a child from sexual assault.

This bill addresses defense from car jacking. A person may use deadly force from inside or outside the vehicle to terminate a car jacking.

This legislation also provides immunity from civil liability against people that use deadly force to defend themselves. I don't believe there was ever an intention of this being able to happen to a law abiding person just trying to defend themselves.

Those who intend to do bodily harm, kidnap, or sexually assault another person should "beware." This bill empowers people to defend themselves and others. You can't blow a whistle and expect the police to show up; I say stand your ground.