



# Alaska State Legislature

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**Sponsor:** Senator John Cowdery  
**Current Version:** CSSB 224 (STA)  
**Contact:** Richard Schmitz, 465-4921 Interim: 226-0222  
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## Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 224

**Short Title:** Lower DWI for Minors to .02

### Summary:

- Increases the penalties for minors who commit the infraction of driving after consuming alcohol (MOVAC).
- Imposes a \$500 fine and 20 to 40 hours of community service on minors for the first offense, \$1,000 fine and 40 to 60 hours community service for the second offense, and \$1,500 and 60 to 80 hours community work service for the third offense.

### Benefits:

- Penalizes minors who have chosen to consume alcohol and then drive by increasing their fines according to the number of times they are caught.
- Imposes mandatory community work service related to the education, prevention or treatment of minors who consume alcohol and then drive.
- Discourages future consumption.

### Background:

Under current law, a minor sentenced with a MOVAC is typically fined a small amount, usually \$250. This has little if no deterrent effect; minors continue to drink and drive. Alaska does not have any tracking system for MOVACs, however, the Alaska Safety Action Program (ASAP) and MADD have observed that a significant percentage of minors with multiple MOVACs go on to become adult high-risk drivers. In addition, these offenders commit other alcohol-abuse related crimes such as domestic violence and sexual assault.